

Gunmen hold many hostages in Washington

WASHINGTON. — Heavily armed Palestinian extremists raided B'nai B'rith headquarters, the national Islamic center and City Hall yesterday, taking scores of hostages, killing one man and wounding a city councilman in what was described as revenge for a four-year-old mass killing.

Police enforced siege-like security around the heart of Washington, barricaded parts of Pennsylvania Avenue near the White House and closed the busy Ross Row where the day's largest take-along took place.

Armed with rifles and possibly the image of automatic weapons, according to B'nai B'rith police, the gunmen said they sought a "beyond retribution for the 1973 slayings" of seven fellow Hanafi Moslems from five children and two women — by rival Moslem sect in a Washington mosque owned by basketball star Kareem Abdul Jabbar.

In a television interview one of the gunmen demanded that the police be involved in that the police and the murderers of Black Muslim leader Malcolm X be held to a never-ending retribution to the B'nai B'rith fight to the kidnapping.

President Carter ordered the Federal Bureau of Investigation to investigate the series of events that triggered the kidnapping.

Order parties are arranged from Embassy Row to Pennsylvania Avenue.

According to Israel Radio, they asked for \$750,000 and a ban on the showing of the film "Muhammad, Messenger of God."

Police said a 24-year-old reporter, Maurice Williams of radio station WOL, was killed in a fusillade of bullets in which two others were injured. One of the wounded was City Councilman Marion Barry, who was hospitalized after being hit in the chest. Mayor Walter Washington and other officials were trapped in

their office.

B'nai B'rith executive vice-president Daniel Thurz told Post correspondent Wolf Blitzer that there had been no demands concerning Israel, Jews or Prime Minister Rabin's visit to Washington.

Thurz said between 100 and 130 employees were being held hostage and that about 20 non-Jewish employees had been released. He said one hostage had suffered a heart attack. A B'nai B'rith watchman with gunshot wounds was released from the building and was in critical condition, he said.

At B'nai B'rith, seven blacks north of the White House between 100 and 130 employees were held by riflemen with automatic weapons. Five wounded men escaped there and at least three more were reported inside the building.

The English news department at Israel Radio, which was in phone contact with Washington late into the night, told The Post the wounded at the B'nai B'rith building were Alton Kirkland, stabbed in the chest and back, serious condition; Wesley Rymes, shot in left arm, satisfactory condition; Ben Golliver, kicked in the head, good condition; Michael Smith, hit on the head, good condition; and Stephen Widdeas, lacerations to head, treated and released. All were treated at George Washington University Hospital.

In a phone conversation with Israel Radio, Assistant Chief of Police John H. Hughes said there were no more than 30 hostages in the B'nai B'rith building. He also denied that the City Hall attack was connected with the other two attacks, and denied that the mayor was a hostage. This conflicted with other

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Prime Minister Kabin is awarded an honorary doctor of law degree from the American University in Washington yesterday. Making the presentation are, left to right, Joseph Sisco, former Under Secretary of State and the university president, and provost Richard Berendzen. (UPI telephone)

Rabin: Decisions only by parties concerned

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON.—Prime Minister Rabin yesterday said that Israel will be prepared to receive advice from the United States and others on the best ways to move towards peace in the Middle East, but such advice cannot be a substitute for decisions made by the parties concerned — Israel and its Arab neighbours.

Addressing the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations over lunch, the Prime Minister seemed to be replying to a statement by President Carter earlier in the day suggesting that a final settlement include only minor adjustments to the pre-1967 Israeli-Arab frontier — a position Israel rejects.

by Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and other Administration officials. Rabin then departed for Miami Beach, Florida, where he was scheduled to address an Israel Bonds rally last night (after midnight Israeli time).

State Department officials said that Carter's remarks, which were well thought out in advance, did not merely represent the views held by national security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, but those of the entire State Department and the Administration. The officials agreed that Carter's statement was "very important" in outlining the U.S. stand.

An Israel Embassy official here handed Rabin the text of Carter's remarks. Rabin talked with the

Rabin, who did not refer directly to the Carter remarks, said that Israel "appreciates" America's understanding of the Middle East problem, but, in the end, it is "up to the parties to the conflict" to make final decisions.

Israeli officials travelling with Rabin were reluctant to react directly to Carter's statement, which took them by surprise.

After the luncheon, Rabin drove to the Washington Monument for an official ceremony to mark the 25th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel.

Shorham Americana Hotel, where the luncheon was held. Rabin and his aides were seen reading the transcript of the Carter press conference with interest.

Informed sources here said that Rabin was not pressured by the U.S. Government to explain the American position on "defensible borders," as called for by Carter on Monday. The Arabs had expressed their concern over Carter's remarks during the last Monday welcoming Rabin to the White House.

Afro-Arab summit ends

Jerusalem Post Staff and agencies. The first-ever Afro-Arab summit conference ended in Cairo yesterday with the adoption of economic and political declarations designed to bind the two blocs closer. The conference included 60 African and Arab countries although only 23 leaders were present.

A number of Arab leaders remain in Cairo, apparently to discuss Lebanese President Elias Sarkis' request to get the Palestine Liberation Organization out of southern Lebanon — the last flashpoint in that country's two-year-long civil strife.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Habib Thabiti, the conference spokesman, said the economic and political documents the two groups signed at the end of their meeting showed cooperation now was on a permanent footing instead of a periodic one. He said Arab aid to African development totalling \$3.5b. indicated Arab leaders were serious in establishing strong links.

The Arab-African charter of cooperation signed yesterday in Cairo was a broad appeal for closer political, economic, technical and cultural ties — but with few specifics.

Some of its provisions: "The African and Arab countries condemn imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, Zionism, apartheid and all other forms of racial and religious discrimination ... particularly in Africa, Palestine and the occupied Arab territories."

Joint U.S.-Israel team probes sale of weapons

By ASHER WALLFISH, Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter

Taiwan denies it wants to purchase Kfir

TAIPEI. — A Nationalist Chinese military spokesman, Colonel Wang Ch'eh-Kai, denied yesterday that the government intends to purchase any kind of war planes from Israel.

Wang said that "our government as never considered the purchase of any type of aircraft from Israel. Their reports are absolutely untrue."

Reports from Washington on Tuesday said Taiwan was considering the Israel-built Kfir fighter plane as a possible replacement for its ageing F-5s made F-104 Starfighters. (AP)

In replying to a motion for the agenda by the Likud's Moshe Arens, which was voted to the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, Allon sketched briefly the history of the affair.

Allon said that as soon as the possibility of the deal with Ecuador became apparent last November, the Embassy in Washington sought permission from the U.S. When Defence Minister Shimon Peres went to Washington in December, he also pressed the issue.

When the time came to sign the contract with Ecuador, the minister said, Israel stepped up its efforts to get American agreement. But the outgoing administration preferred to

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service
blood and
emergency
help**



מגן דוד
אדום
בישראל
MAGEN
DAVID
ADOM
IN ISRAEL

Cairo cautious on Carter statement

CAIRO. — Egyptian Government sources reacted cautiously yesterday to U.S. President Jimmy Carter's statement about the Middle East, reiterating the often declared Arab position that Israel should evacuate all Arab territories captured in the 1967 war.

One source said that if "minor adjustments" of the 1967 boundaries were essential for a peace settlement, they should be introduced on both the Arab and Israeli sides of the frontier.

One official quoted recent statements by President Anwar Sadat that Egypt would accept the creation of demilitarized zones between it and Israel only if they were set up on both sides of the 1967 borders.

On the question of what borders would be "defensible" for Israel, the source said: "This Israeli theory of security was smashed by the Arab armies in the 1973 war when they crossed the Suez Canal and destroyed the Bar-Lev Line of fortifications, and when they blockaded the Bab el-Mandab Straits, thus making the Israeli port of Eilat practically useless." (UPI)

Panic in Rumania at U.S. warning of new quake

BUCHAREST. — The Rumanian government yesterday expressed concern to the U.S. about panic spreading through its population of 21 million because of a warning of a repeat of Friday's destructive earthquake.

The warning, relayed by the U.S. ambassador, came from the earthquake centre of the U.S. Geological Survey at Golden, Colorado. It said Friday's force 7.2 shock might be followed "within days or months" by an earthquake with a force of six or more on the modified Richter scale.

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Callaghan flies Concorde to Carter meeting

NEW YORK. — In a gesture which may have been calculated to "show the flag" in the dispute between the U.S. on the one hand and Britain and France on the other over the controversial Anglo-French supersonic jet airliner, the Concorde, British Prime Minister James Callaghan flew to Washington yesterday in a British Concorde for his "get acquainted" meeting with Jimmy Carter.

U.S. lifts travel ban on Cuba, Asian Communist states

WASHINGTON.—President Carter yesterday announced that his Administration is lifting the ban on travel by U.S. citizens to Vietnam, North Korea, Cambodia and Cuba effective March 18.

But Carter, speaking at a 30-minute news conference whose main subject was the Middle East, warned that Americans who want to visit those countries should take precautions because the U.S. has no diplomatic relations there and the establishment of such ties is "a doubtful prospect at this point."

Carter's announcement confirmed reports that had surfaced earlier at the State Department.

The President said in response to another question that he will stand by his campaign pledge to withdraw U.S. ground troops from South Korea. He said four to five years "is appropriate" for that move, and that the details would have to be "worked out carefully" with the South Korean government, with Japan kept fully informed.

He envisioned the U.S. continuing to provide air cover for the country "for a long time." (AP)

Treasury short billions in tax revenue

Jerusalem Post Economic Reporter
The Government collected IL38b. in taxes in the last 11 months of this fiscal year and is still IL5.8b. short of the planned tax revenue of IL43.8b. for fiscal 1976.

Treasury officials said yesterday that they do not expect tax revenue in March — the last month of the fiscal year which ends on April 1 — to close this IL5.8b. gap.

Several months ago high officials in the State Revenue Administration were optimistic about fiscal 1978 and predicted that revenue would exceed the planned estimate by IL3.5b. Treasury officials, worried about the deficit in tax revenue, are also disturbed about the drop in sales of Government bonds. Until December 1976, when the bonds had a 90 per cent linkage to the Cost-of-Living Index, the Government sold IL400m. in

bonds every month. After the decision in December to drop the linkage to only 80 per cent of the C-o-L Index, only IL20m. of bonds were sold every month.

The deficit caused by low tax revenue and small sales of Government bonds was swollen with another unexpected IL2.5b. in expenditure when the Government granted pay rises in the recent round of labour disputes.

'New departure,' say observers -- but point up gap on borders

President Carter's doctrine of "defense lines" was regarded in Jerusalem last night as a major new development. Highly placed observers pointed out that this was the first time the U.S. had ever accepted the Israeli argument that the 1967 lines cannot provide security and need to be tangibly bolstered.

At the same time, of course, the observers recognized ruefully that Carter was calling for Israel ultimately to shrink again more or less to its pre-1967 size. Plainly, they said, this demand highlighted the yawning gulf between the Israeli and American positions — and Israeli efforts in the months ahead would be directed at seeking to narrow the gap.

By DAVID LANDAU
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

President's distinction between "legal borders" and "defence lines" and his statement that "there may be extensions of Israeli defence capability beyond the permanent and recognized borders."

This was the one major element in Carter's scenario which was not present in the report of the Brookings Institution, issued in December 1979 by a distinguished panel that included Prof. Zbigniew Brzezinski, now Carter's security adviser. The Brookings report foreshadowed the other key elements in the President's presentation yesterday: Israeli withdrawal in stages and an

strategic points beyond the political borders, stationed on land that would not be claimed by Israel as her own, but would perhaps be leased from the neighbouring Arab state for a period of time.

Other points noted by observers here in a first assessment of the Carter statement:

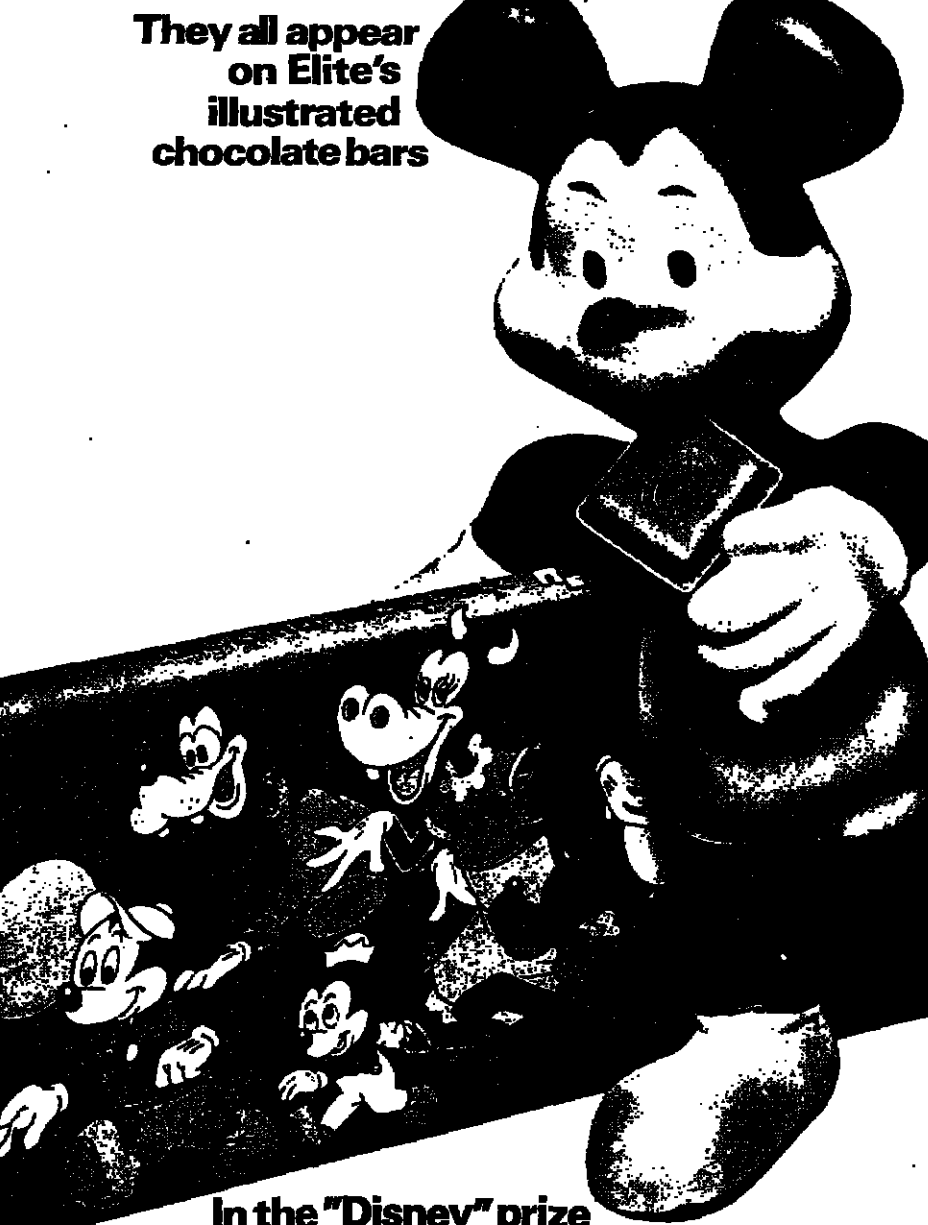
- There was only one brief and pedestrian mention of the Palestinian question, and no support at all for a separate Palestinian state. The Arabs are expected to protest loudly at this omission — as at Carter's entertaining the notion of an Israeli presence on returned Arab lands.

While the President stressed the need for negotiation and agreement between the parties, and denied any U.S. intention of dictating terms, he clearly sees America's role of middleman as by no means confined to extending good offices. His statement yesterday amounted in effect to a detailed blueprint of how he would like to see events shaping up in this region in the years ahead. As such it marks a watershed in the history of Washington's diplomatic involvement in the affairs of the area.

Here they come!

All the heroes your kids love so much
Micky Mouse, Pluto, Donald Duck, Peter Pan, Captain Hook, Pinocchio, Cinderella and all the others...

They all appear
on Elite's
illustrated
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In the "Disney" prize
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The kids are happy with Elite's "Disney" chocolate.
They eat the chocolate, colour the drawings inside
the wrapper and indicate on the coupon which poster
they would like (from No.5 to No.8).

Cut out 12 coupons (one from each wrapper), complete
the slogan on each wrapper and mail them in an envelope
to P.O.B. 3468, Tel Aviv.

The Prize: A colourful poster measuring 35x50 cm.
One of the four delightful posters selected, showing
Walt Disney's famous characters will be mailed to your home.
Bon appetit and good luck!

Life is sweet with
"Disney" chocolate from **elite**



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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Occasional showers with possible thunderstorms. Partial clearings during the day.

Yesterday's High/Low	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Max
Jerusalem 75/55	4-15	12
Golan 71/51	7-14	23
Nahariya 71/51	6-16	27
Safed 66/46	5-12	11
Haifa Port 77/57	10-18	27
Tiberias 42/22	8-22	30
Nazareth 74/54	8-18	14
Afula 77/57	5-15	17
Shomron 84/64	6-14	18
Tel Aviv 88/68	9-17	17
B-G Airport 84/64	7-18	17
Joricho 34/14	8-22	31
Gaza 73/53	10-17	17
Beerseba 82/62	4-15	17
Ellat 39/19	12-23	22
Tiran Straits 39/19	18-22	21

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Mayor Teddy Kollek yesterday received Elizabeth Barber, the newly appointed Consul of France in Jerusalem. Miss Barber also called on the Jerusalem District Officer, Rafael Levi.

William Norris, chairman of the board of Control Data Corp. in the U.S., yesterday visited the Technion, and met with President Amos Horov.

Staying at the Dan-Casas Hotel: West German actor Heinz Rühmann. Communicated.

The English Play-Reading Group will present Noel Coward's "Private Lives" at Moadon Ha'oleh, 9 Rehov Alkalay, Jerusalem, on Saturday evening at 8:30.

Gaby Orin of the Customs Investigation Department will be the guest speaker at Monday's meeting of the English-speaking Aharon Katzir B'nai B'rith Lodge, at 7:45 p.m., at B'nai B'rith House, 10 Rehov Kaplan, Tel Aviv.

ARRIVALS

A group of 15 Alliance-Samson tyre distributors from the U.S., for a 10 day tour. (via El Al).

DEPARTURES

Mrs. Raya Jaglom, President of World Wisa, to Geneva (via El Al).

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service will be held at the graveside of Esther (nee Grabelsky) Gelbaum on the first anniversary of her death on Sunday, March 13, 1977, at 8 p.m. at the Petah Tikva Cemetery.

Sincere sympathies to our colleague

Zvi Raanan and Family

on the tragic death of their son

MORDECHAI

Daily Newspapers
Publishers Association

We announce with deep sorrow the death of our beloved

MOSES TORCZYNER

a veteran leader of the Zionist Organization of America

who passed away in New York after a prolonged illness,
on Monday, March 7, 1977.

The bereaved family in the U.S.:
His wife Gisella
His sons Ezer and James
His brother Joshua
His sister Etta

Her friends and colleagues
at the Israel Bond Office

join Yardenia Yalon

in mourning the passing of
her beloved father

YOSEF RUBINOWICZ

and extend sincere
condolences to all the family.

In deep sorrow we announce that my dearly beloved
husband, our father and grandfather

Dr. ALBRECHT WILMERSDOERFFER

passed away on Wednesday, March 9, 1977.

He donated his body to science.

The Bereaved Family

To Hella Kace and her family

We extend condolences on the passing of her mother

MIRIAM WIESENTHAL

Israel Switzerland
Chamber of Commerce

Israel Switzerland
Friendship Association

'Yadlin affair' clash in Knesset committee

By ASHER WALLFISH, Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter

The Alignment and the Likud were still grappling with each other in a battle of words and wits in the Knesset State Control Committee yesterday over the allegations in court by Asher Yadlin last month, that he channelled millions, some of it in bribe money, to finance the Labour Party.

The Alignment men on the committee argued that the Knesset body had no right to probe allegations of illegal conduct, but had to limit itself to discussing whatever findings the State Comptroller might eventually produce on the issue. The committee had no authority to summon testimony, said Moshe Wertman, Ari Ankorian and Jacques Amir.

Ankorian went much further when he said flatly: "We shall not agree that the State Comptroller probe the financial affairs of Labour unless he probes the financial affairs of all the other parties too."

Wertman said: "The Likud wants to get us with our backs to the wall because of the May election. We are not trying to whitewash anything, but we do not agree to this tendentious campaign by the Likud." "They were especially incensed by the onslaught of Ehud Olmert, who accused them of being 'two-faced', because after they had agreed in the plenum that Yigal Horowitz' motion on party financing allegations go to committee, they refused in committee (where they have a majority) to permit free discussion.

Wertman: "It's high time you changed your tone, Olmert." Moshe Carmel: "And your style too." Jacques Amir: "We've had enough of your aggressive manners."

To this Olmert replied: "We've caught you red-handed with these charges, and we won't let go."

The chairman of the State Control Committee, Likud's Yosef Tamir, said that the Alignment's aim was to "sterilize the discussion." He had the right to invite whomever he wanted, Tamir said, and he insisted that Yehoshua Rabinowitz and David Kalderson, mentioned by Asher Yadlin in court, be invited. Labour's obduracy was harming its own image and impairing the credibility of the Knesset, Tamir said.

Olmert said that since all that the committee must do at this stage was to decide whether or not it wanted to launch an enquiry, its invitations to people like Rabinowitz could only be of a preliminary nature anyway. The chairman once again decided not to put the matter to the vote, because the Alignment had mobilized all its eight men on the committee, against the six of the Likud and one of the National Religious Party, and so a vote would have meant a formal committee ruling to close the matter, till the State Comptroller next brought it up. Tamir will take up the discussion once more next week.

Labour body is independent

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT, Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The composition of the Labour Party's new central committee shows that neither the Rabin nor the Peres faction will be in a position to call the tune on party policy-making. Early indications are that this central committee should also be more immune than its predecessor to party machine pressures.

Supporters of both Rabin and Peres said the dividing lines between the two camps had been blurred. "People will vote according to issues," MK Micha Harish told *The Jerusalem Post*.

Outgoing party Young Guard leader Nathan Raanan confirmed, "The period of oligarchy in the party is over. An individual member can now influence decisions."

The names of 78 members of the new central committee were published yesterday. Another 20 representatives of Oriental communities will be appointed shortly, and two names have been struck from the list — those of MK Mordechai Ben Porat, who defected from the party, and Dov Kivon, who has died.

The new independence of the central committee comes about partly

because of its increased size. The committee has 819 members, as against 616 in the past. Of these, 497 were elected by the party's 15 regions, to whom they are responsible, and 321 were chosen by the party appointments committee.

The new committee is younger than its predecessor, with more members under 40.

A number of prominent party and public figures have been dropped. They include former ministers Dov Joseph, Ze'ev Sharav and Ya'akov Shimshon Shapira, former Bank of Israel governor Moshe Sarbar, Israel's UN ambassador Elin Herzog, two past directors-general of Solei Boneh, Hillel Cohen and Zvi Richter, and Zvi Dinshin, the Prime Minister adviser on energy matters.

Former Knesset members who were not re-elected include Zena Harman, Baruch Azania, Amos Degani and Yishar Harari.

Miriam Bekhol, widow of the late prime minister, Micha Piron, former chairman of the IAI Board of Directors, Aharon Remez, chairman of the Ports Authority, Electric Corporation head Aris, Avraham, and Ze'ev Karmi, the director-general, have all been dropped from the committee.

Talia Livni, Asher Yadlin's girlfriend, is another former member who was dropped. Yadlin himself was earlier expelled.

Meanwhile the Labour election campaign is being stepped up. Campaign manager Haim Bar-Lev said the party would not be mounting personal attacks, but would be comparing itself with its rivals. On the possibility of a television debate between the Prime Minister and opposition leader Menachem Begin, Bar-Lev said the Prime Minister would have to decide. He himself was in favour of the idea, which was an Opposition initiative, he said.

Text of Carter statement on Middle East

The following is the text of the Middle East questions and answers at President Carter's news conference yesterday:

Q: Mr. President, there has been a lot of talk about defensible borders lately and what that means in regard to the Middle East. Do you feel that it would be appropriate in a Middle East peace settlement for the Israelis to keep some of the occupied land they took during the 1967 war in order to have secure borders?

Carter: The defensible border phrase, the secure border phrase, obviously are just semantics. I think it's a relatively significant development in the description of possible settlement in the Middle East to talk about these things as a distinction. Recognized borders have to be mutual. The Arab nations, the Israeli nation, have to agree on permanent and recognized borders where sovereignty is legal as mutually agreed. Defence lines may or may not conform in the foreseeable future to those legal borders. There may be extensions of Israeli defence capability beyond the permanent and recognized borders.

I think this distinction is one that is now recognized by Israeli leaders. The definition of borders on a geographical basis is one that remains to be determined. But I think that it's important for the world to begin to see that there can be a distinction between the two: the ability of Israel to defend herself by international agreement, or by the sometimes placement of Israeli forces themselves, or by monitoring stations as has been the case in the Sinai, beyond the actual sovereignty borders as mutually agreed by Israel and her neighbours.

Q: Does that mean international zones between the countries or...

C: International zones could very well be part of an agreement, and I think that I can see in a growing way a step-by-step process where there might be a mutual agreement that the ultimate settlement, even including the border delineations, would be at a certain described point. In an interim state — maybe two years, four years, eight years or more — there would be a mutual demonstration of friendship and an end

to the declaration or state of war. I think that what Israel would like to have is what we would like to have: a termination of belligerence toward Israel by her neighbours; a recognition of Israel's right to exist — the right to exist in peace; the opening up of borders with free trade, tourist travel, cultural exchange between Israel and her neighbours. In other words, a stabilization of the situation in the Middle East without a constant threat to Israel's existence by her neighbours.

And this would involve substantial withdrawal of Israel's present control over territories. Now where that withdrawal might end, I don't know. I would guess it would be some minor adjustments in the 1967 borders, but that still remains to be negotiated. But I think that this is going to be a long tedious process.

We're going to mount a major effort in our own government in 1977 to bring the parties to Geneva. Obviously, any agreement has to be between the parties concerned. We will act as an intermediary when our good offices will serve well. But I'm not trying to predispose our own national attitudes toward what might be the ultimate details of the agreement that can mean so much to world peace.

Q: A moment ago, in answering the question, you spoke of the possibility of substantial withdrawal of Israeli control over territory and then just a few seconds later (you) spoke of the possibility of minor territorial concessions by the Israelis. What is it exactly that you have in mind here? Are you really talking about some big withdrawals, or are you talking only about minor withdrawals?

C: I don't think I used the word minor withdrawals. I think there might be minor adjustments to the pre-1967 borders, but that's a matter for Israel and her neighbours to decide between themselves. And I believe that we will know by I'd say, the middle of May much more clearly the positions of the interested parties. I've not yet met nor talked to the leaders in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Egypt. Saudi Arabia to a lesser direct participation degree. I will meet with all these leaders between now and the

middle of May, and I don't want to try to define any specific terms, the exact delineation of borders. But I think this is obviously one of the most serious problems. There are three basic elements:

One is an ultimate commitment to complete peace in the Middle East. Secondly, border determinations which are highly controversial and not yet been defined by either side. And third, dealing with the one to lay down an ultimate settlement. I don't know what will be freely and openly debated within our own country and within the countries involved. As I think I have described as best I can my own position.

Q: Mr. President, if I understood you correctly, you're talking about the possibility of something like an Israeli defence line along the Jordan River and perhaps at some point on the Golan Heights that would be defence lines, not legal borders. Have I understood that correctly, that your feeling is that the Israelis are going to have to have some kind of defence forces along the Jordan River and in those places?

C: Well, you added a great deal to what I said. In the first place, I didn't mention any particular parts of the geography around Israel, and didn't confine the defence capability to Israel's forces.

These might very well be international zones. It might very well be a line that's fairly broad, say 20 km. or more, where demilitarization is guaranteed on both sides. It might very well be a line of outposts, electronics, or perhaps, a small outposts as were established in the region as a result of the Egypt and Israeli agreement.

I'm not going to try to get more specific. I say what will or will not be the case. But that possibility that might lead to the alleviation of tension there, and it's one which I will be dealing with the representatives from the Arab countries when they come.

Harel: Mossad never took 'a grush' from U.S.

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Isser Harel, head of Israel's security services between 1952 and 1963, yesterday emphatically denied reports that the service received "so much as a grush" from American or other sources.

Harel made the press to introduce a book on Arab intelligence services written by a former colleague, Yaacov Caron.

"The Mossad (the roof organization of security services) sometimes cooperated with the Americans. But it was a holy principle, upheld by Ben-Gurion, that the cooperation be conducted in the interests of Israel alone. By accepting money, even to finance joint projects, you are liable to become an agent, often without being aware of it," Harel said.

Bank Leumi warns of strike

Bank Leumi yesterday advised its customers to take care of their financial affairs at its branches all over the country today, because of a threatened strike by its employees.

Italians beat Madrid

Mobil Gergi of Varese, Italy, last night defeated Real Madrid of Spain 90-81 in a semifinal match in the European Cup of Champions basketball competition. The Italians led 47-33 at halftime.

The win substantially improves Tel Aviv Maccabi's chances of being one of the two finalists in the competition. Maccabi can virtually assure a final berth by defeating the Belgian champions Maes Pils tonight at the Yad Ellahu stadium. The match will be broadcast on Israel TV.

Peres visits Nablus hospital

Jerusalem Post Reporter

NABLUS. — Defence Minister Shimon Peres said yesterday that the West Bank administration has invested IL17m. in the Rafidia Hospital in Nablus. He was speaking during a tour of the hospital which Jordan began constructing shortly before the 1967 war.

During his visit Peres conferred with the hospital medical staff who complained about the wide gap between their salaries and those of their colleagues in Israel and Jordan. They were also worried about a shortage of medicines and about the decision to raise hospital fees almost six-fold in the West Bank. The medical personnel, however, did

have a word of praise for the authorities for providing sophisticated equipment for regional centres.

The Defence Minister earlier paid a brief visit to Hebron where he inspected recent renovations in the Machpela Cave shrine sacred to both Jews and Muslims. While strolling in nearby alleys, Peres had lengthy chats with local Arabs. A number of them protested against what they referred to as strict military measures applied occasionally in the neighbourhood.

Peres was accompanied on the tour by the Coordinator of Operations in the Territories, Aluf Avraham Ori and the Commander of Judea and Samaria, Tat-Aluf David Hagool.

Metal workers to avoid showdown now

By ZE'EV SCHUL, Jerusalem Post Reporter

HEBERSHEBA. — The Union of Metal Workers yesterday opted to avoid an immediate showdown in public of "party with the public sector workers."

Following the recent series of near-uniform wage hikes given to the public sectors' white-collar workers, the trade union chiefs of the industry workers are demanding comparable raises — ranging from IL100 to IL150 per month for top grades, plus commensurate specific allowances.

At a meeting, held at the Mahleshim plant in Beerseba of the national secretariat of the Metal Workers, (incorporating the affiliated electronic and electricity workers' unions) yesterday it was agreed that an attempt would be made to conduct talks with the corresponding department of the Manufacturers' Association and its economic coordinating bureau.

It was resolved that the union would put off all protest action for at least a fortnight, and that the secretariat would consult the

Histadrut to plan "a joint action."

Informed observers here yesterday suggested that the moderate tack chosen by the usually quite militant union indicates a reappraisal of the situation. The industry workers are basing their claims on the "preference treatment" promised them in their 1976 two-year collective wage agreement. This "preference" included, among other things, higher grades than those of the public service sector.

It now emerges that this balance was never really threatened, and that industrial workers enjoyed a real increase in their purchasing power (take-home pay and benefits) estimated at 10 per cent over a four-year period including 1976, excluding the cost of living allowance. During the same period, the public sector employees lost 7.5 per cent. Meeting with workers in export-oriented industries yesterday, Histadrut Secretary-General Yerubam Meshel said that he favoured special compensation for export workers.

Junior faculty demand changes

Jerusalem Post Staff

Junior faculty at both the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv University continued to strike yesterday, although both have approved the national wage agreement. Academic demands are now the target of the strike which started on Sunday and will continue today.

The junior and senior faculty of the Technion have both approved the wage agreement. However, Technion staffers did not join their colleagues in the strike.

At Tel Aviv University, the senior faculty have delayed their decision on ratifying the wage contract until March 17. Opponents of the agreement object particularly to the clause stating that retroactive payments due them (the difference between the old salary and the new, from April 1, 1976 to the present) will not be paid until July 1.

Tel Aviv's junior faculty are demanding a decrease in doctoral tuition and university subsidies for the cost of publishing doctoral dissertations. Another demand is that the university stop employing some of them as "outside lecturers" who only receive eight months' salary a year and no fringe benefits.

At a general meeting of the 1,300-member Association of Hebrew University Lecturers, Instructors and Assistants yesterday morning, they voted to press their demands for fairer representation in the university senate, rationalisation of promotion and tenure procedures.

The wage agreement reached between the teaching staffs and the management of the academic institutions provides for pay increases retroactive to April last year, similar to those granted to the engineers.

17 Arab students injured in fight

RAMALLAH. — Some Arab students from an Unwra teachers' seminary were injured when Border Police broke up a demonstration in Ramallah yesterday.

The 200 seminary students were demonstrating in support of the security prisoners in the Ashkelon jail who have been on hunger strike for the last 12 days in demands for better prison conditions. During the morning the students held a sit-down strike in the seminary. They

later burst out of the building where they met the Border Police.

The policemen dispersed the demonstration with tear gas bombs but many of the students ran to a nearby house where they hid behind rocks and threw stones at the policemen. A fight developed between the students and policemen and four policemen were also injured.

The Military Government has opened an investigation on the matter. (Him)

Detective jailed for helping burglar

TEL AVIV. — One of the top investigators of the fraud division national police headquarters sentenced to a year's imprisonment yesterday for giving a burglar information which helped the thief steal vital information from a criminal file in the Tel Aviv District Court.

The convicted policeman, Sergeant Major Reuben Buchman, 48, from Ramat Aviv, was accused of accepting bribes and criminal conspiracy to steal the files.

Buchman, who was due to retire a few weeks after the criminal file was opened against him, was found guilty of giving Albert Mizrahi information which helped him steal personal details evidence against the "Straw" company — evidence which Buchman himself collected.

Buchman was convicted on the evidence of tape-recorded conversations between himself and Mizrahi. When these tapes were played back in court the judge heard Buchman describe the details of the prosecution office. The tape evidence also helped to acquit Buchman on the conspiracy charge. The court heard Mizrahi ask Sergeant Major to help him steal the files, but Buchman turned the offer down for fear he would be caught.

The judge said in his verdict that Buchman, whom he described as "one of the pillars of the fraud division, committed an enormous betrayal. The police must be clear even if it takes white-hot irons."

While handing down sentence, Buchman Judge Benjamin Cohen, District Court, said he did not know if he would have arrived at a different judgement had he known enough time, but said he was sure the verdict would have covered the case more thoroughly.

He complained of "fashion" of the president of the Supreme Court to urge judges to work faster. He added that he did not know if he would have arrived at a different judgement had he known enough time, but said he was sure the verdict would have covered the case more thoroughly.

Yadlin won't get severance pay

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Asher Yadlin will receive severance pay from Kibbutz Holim, because he was dismissed after pleading guilty to accepting bribes, Kibbutz Holim's legal sources in the sick fund said yesterday.

Histadrut regulations state that any employee found guilty of criminal activity is not entitled to severance pay.

The Central Control Committee decided yesterday to meet today to decide whether to demand Yadlin, the former director of Kibbutz Holim, return the money which received in bribes.

Soldier killed on duty

HAIFA. — The funeral of Sergeant (Lieutenant) Shai Cohen, who was killed on active duty in the IDF, will leave the Rambam hospital in Haifa for the military cemetery on Carmel beach tomorrow at 3:30 p.m. The afternoon. Shai Cohen was born in Haifa, attended the Reali High school in the city, and joined the army two years ago. His father, Captain Yonatan Cohen, is head of the Zim office in Teheran. (Him)

Israel Prize winners

The 1977 Israel Prize for sculpture has been awarded to Dani Karavan. The Ministry of Education and Culture announced yesterday. The award for design went jointly to Elihuza Cohen and Yona Fishel.

Justice suggests probe of bank's operations

The United Mizrahi Bank yesterday won an appeal in the Supreme Court, using a defence which may cause it more trouble in the future. While ruling in the bank's favour, the court said the bank in a case involving a disputed IL195,000, which the bank credited to a customer as "return of collateral," the justices said that the inspector of banks ought to look into the matter, because it may involve "an attempt to evade income tax."

The case involved a debt to the bank, of IL700,000, owed by the Greenstein and Brill building firm.

In 1967, unable to pay its debt, the firm transferred some property to the bank. After several months, the firm's accounts were credited with the agreed sale price, except for IL195,000. About a year later, the company was credited with IL195,000, and the bank informed it that the sum represented "return of collateral."

Later, the firm brought suit for the IL195,000 balance owed by the bank and the bank's subsidiary land company for the land. In District Court, the judge ruled in favour of

Greenstein and Brill, and ordered the United Mizrahi Bank to pay IL195,000.

The Supreme Court, however, reversed that lower court ruling, accepting the bank's contention that the "return of collateral" was in reality the payment of that same IL195,000 debt. In his opinion, Justice Moshe Estlin looked at the method in which the entry was made, noting that "every bank must keep accurate books, reflecting precisely the real transactions performed."

Many Jewish quake victims unidentified

By SARAH HONIG, Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Many of the Jewish victims of the massive Rumanian earthquake last Friday will probably never be identified and will be buried anonymously in mass graves in Rumanian cemeteries, Rumania's Chief Rabbi Moshe Rosen reported in a telephone call from the Rumanian capital yesterday.

Many bodies of quake victims still not been recovered and it is impossible to identify. Thus the total number of Jewish casualties is probably never known. All that is clear is that the quake took a heavy toll of Jewish lives, with losses proportionately higher than the percentage of Jews in the population. This is because the Bucharest quake struck heavily in neighbourhoods where many Jews lived.

In a telephone conversation with Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat and his deputy, Yitzhak Artzi, Rabbi Rosen yesterday described "scenes of horror as hundreds of people lined up at the Bucharest morgue to attempt to identify the dead. Most of the bodies are in hideous state and the anguish of families is unbearable. It is hell on earth," Rosen said.

Lahat phoned to express the city's sympathy and offer its help. Rosen said that if the situation permits it, he might visit Israel briefly next week.

Yesterday Rosen released the names of 82 Bucharest Jews known to be missing. Among them are two doctors who served as hospital directors, as well as many other physicians and professional people. In several cases, whole families are missing.

It was also reported yesterday that most of the Israel Embassy personnel in Bucharest are residing within the embassy building because their flats have been damaged. Efforts are being made to re-house personnel, as well as families of El Al, Zim and other Israeli firms represented in the Rumanian capital.

Meanwhile, mystery clouds the fate of over 100 Israeli Arab students studying in Craiova. Despite persistent attempts by the Foreign Ministry and the Israel Embassy to contact them, no word has been received. Telephone communication is still cut off and the campus is inaccessible.

Most Jerusalem buildings would survive

ABRAHAM RABINOVICH, Jerusalem Post Reporter

As the ones adopted in 1970, but they are so new that virtually no building in the city has yet been built according to them. Some of the taller buildings put up in recent years, however, have taken safety precautions beyond those required by the regulations prevailing at the time, he said. There is special danger of collapse to buildings built of pre-cast elements.

A more optimistic view was taken by a veteran engineer in the City Planning Department, who likewise preferred anonymity. He said yesterday that virtually no building built in West Jerusalem since 1960 was in danger in any ordinary earthquake, if building regulations existing at the time were adhered to. As to the effect of a quake on buildings built earlier and on Old City structures, "your guess is as good as mine," he said.

Sarah Honig adds: The residents of Dan region cities stand a good chance of escaping unscathed if a quake hits the area. Geophysicists' Institute experts said. For one thing, they said they doubt very much that the coastal plains would be severely shaken. While light tremors have been registered, the Dan region is not known to have ever suffered a serious quake.

Although buildings in the Dan region, as well as in the rest of country, do not conform to earthquake precaution standards, it is felt that in the event of quakes of low to medium intensity in the greater Tel Aviv area most of the modern buildings would survive. This is because they all have structural frameworks of reinforced concrete.

State compensation proposed for victims of violence

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — On a state compensation for medical treatment and rehabilitation expenses to victims of violence is expected to be a private member's bill introduced in the Knesset yesterday by Yehoshua Rabinowitz, Minister of the Likud.

The bill would also have the effect of giving a regular allowance to persons disabled by any violent act. It would also have the effect of giving a regular allowance to persons disabled by any violent act. It would also have the effect of giving a regular allowance to persons disabled by any violent act.

Leon Ditzian (Likud) said that the old-age pension paid by the National Insurance Institute should be raised from 15 per cent to 18 per cent of the average wage in the economy. Rabinowitz said the country could not afford to lay out an extra IL300m. yearly. However, he could not command a majority to defeat the proposal, and it went to committee by a vote of 21 against 14.

Knesset to investigate non-existent Sapir Fund

By AARON SITTNER, Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Knesset yesterday told the Finance Committee to investigate the activities of the so-called "Sapir Fund," even though Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz said that the fund existed.

Rabinowitz said that the fund was a true picture of how the millions raised abroad are actually distributed here.

Defending the fund's rights to preserve the anonymity of the donors if they wished to remain anonymous, Korf said there was no reason for secretiveness concerning the methods of distribution of the money, or the norms used in determining who the recipients should be.

In his reply, while denying there was such an entity as the "Sapir Fund," Rabinowitz assailed Korf for allegedly showing disrespect for the late Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir, "one of the greatest Jewish fund raisers ever."

Rabinowitz denied facts were being withheld about the disbursement of the money. Then, lacking a majority to quash Korf's agenda motion, he agreed to have the Finance Committee explore the so-called "Sapir Fund."

Allon criticizes U.S. consul

Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter

Foreign Minister Yigal Allon criticized the U.S. consul-general in Jerusalem in the Knesset yesterday.

Allon told Shoshana Arbell (Alignment) at question-time that the consul-general's promise to intervene on behalf of 400 hunger-striking Arab security prisoners in Nablus prison "did not accord with status and functions."

Allon said: "We drew the attention of the U.S. Embassy in Israel to this matter, and we hope there will be no recurrence."

Almogi says Hias delaying solution

By LEA LEVAVI, Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Hias (Hebrew Immigration Aid Service) is the main stumbling block in solving the problem of Soviet Jews who "drop out" in Vienna, Yosef Almogi, chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, said yesterday.

Almogi named the organization which helps Jews immigrate to the U.S. when asked why more than 50 per cent of the Jews who leave the Soviet Union "drop out" in Vienna.

A committee was formed several months ago to work on the problem. However, Almogi said, Hias' representatives on the committee are trying to get the committee dissolved because, according to them, the problem cannot be solved. Although they have not succeeded in breaking up the committee, their tactics have blocked any positive action, Almogi reported.

Cost of hospital bed will be IL750 daily

By YA'ACOV ARDON, Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Hospitalization costs will go up in another two months from the present daily rate of IL200 per bed to IL750, "because of the rising price of almost everything that is needed to operate a hospital, and because of inflation," this was announced yesterday by Stefan Grayek, a member of Kupat Holim's board of directors. The rate went up from IL350 to IL500 in January.

The sick fund's proposed budget for 1977/78 will run to nearly IL2,500m., a 50 per cent rise over the IL1,500m. budget for the outgoing year. The expected deficit will be IL120m., or 8.3 per cent of the budget. Higher hospital costs alone will raise Kupat Holim expenditures by IL250m. a year.

Kupat Holim's three main sources of revenue are IL750m. from Histadrut dues for its 2.5 million members (families included), over IL400m. from employers' contributions, and nearly IL500m. from the Government, Grayek explained. The balance comes from payments for services and for prescriptions at the rate of IL1 each.

Grayek claimed that the consumption of medical drugs, today the highest in the world, will decline if patients have to pay for their prescriptions. A survey showed that an average Kupat Holim member obtained 24 prescriptions a year, compared with eight in Britain, six in France and four to six in the U.S.

"In next year's budget we have provided for IL400m. for medical supplies of all kinds. But this amount will not be enough unless we have people pay for them. This will net us IL25m. a year, and we will also save an identical amount by the reduced demand for medicine," Grayek said.

Grayek stated that economic and financial transactions by Kupat Holim's management are now subject to much stricter control. He declared that "nothing will be done on the orders of a single person. A tender will be issued for every order of supplies. We shall not form any partnership with private business partners. A committee of directors will check all financial operations." (Asher Yadin, the former head of Kupat Holim, is now serving a five-year sentence in Ramle prison for accepting bribes and falsifying a tax declaration.)

The regional director of the Haifa and West Galilee areas, Benjamin Braun, warned that Kupat Holim services might have to be cut if costs continued to rise. A survey in the Haifa area revealed that 41 per cent of members' calls at Kupat Holim clinics were motivated by non-medical reasons, like seeking doctors' certificates to cover absenteeism from work.

Poultry dealers strike enters second week

By AARON SITTNER, Jerusalem Post Reporter

A delegation of retail poultry dealers was received by the Knesset Economic Committee yesterday as the dealers' "strike" entered its second week.

The poultry dealers are not selling freshly killed fowl in their protest over what they say is discrimination by the Government in that it subsidizes only the marketing of frozen poultry.

The delegation — backed by the General Merchants Association — said committee members understood that the Government subsidy of about IL7 to IL8 per kilo for frozen poultry was discriminatory.

According to the poultry dealers, the main beneficiaries of this subsidy are not the poorer families — who, they say, prefer freshly killed poultry — but the more well-off families, who mainly choose frozen poultry.

The committee said yesterday it would discuss the subject next week with representatives of Government and private agencies connected with the marketing of poultry.

Shatta defence seeks to keep witness in country

By YOEL DAR, Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — A defence lawyer in the Shatta Prison murder trial yesterday said he would seek an injunction barring prosecution witness Talal Hadjazi from leaving the country before the trial is over.

Hadjazi is the key witness in the murder trial of 16 inmates, charged with killing fellow prisoner Yefet Nagar last June. During the proceedings it emerged that Hadjazi, from Jerusalem's Old City, had agreed to testify after he had been promised safe conduct to a European country.

Hadjazi, who admitted Monday on the witness stand that he was one of three men who carried out the actual killing of Nagar, refused to be sent to an Arab country. Another part of his deal with prosecutors was the promise that he be given a new identity.

Yesterday's court session was devoted to cross-examination of Hadjazi by attorneys for the 16 defendants in the case.

One of the defendants, Zion Rubabeh, surprised police guards at the trial yesterday by handing them a razor blade he said had been smuggled to him. He said he was afraid to slip it into the jail.

Meanwhile, an X-ray examination disclosed that another of the accused, Yitzhak Mishali, was lying when he said that he had swallowed a spoon. Mishali had another spoon removed from his abdomen in an emergency operation six weeks ago.

Arthur Knevelman adds: A Russian-made handgun and a Beretta pistol were discovered at Shatta on Tuesday by Nahman Shimon, a stores officer.

According to informed sources, police officers recently have been told that more arms were being smuggled into the prison, Nagar was killed with a knife smuggled in.

During the search of a warehouse where old equipment is stored, Shimon found the live grenade in a small case, and the pistol and a loaded magazine hidden in a nylon bag.

IL5m. gem haul smuggled abroad

BEN-GURION AIRPORT. — Most of the IL5m. worth of diamonds stolen from mail bags over the past two months has been smuggled abroad, police said yesterday. The airport police squad investigating the theft is thinking of asking Interpol to step in, they added.

The diamonds were stolen on five separate occasions. In each case the thieves slit open mail bags, extracted the gems and then resewed the bags so that the loss was not discovered until the mail arrived at its destination. Police believe that the thieves had a courier with a passport and ticket ready to smuggle the stones abroad each time.

Five airport workers have been arrested abroad on suspicion of complicity in the crime. However, although some of them have been in custody almost a month, none of them is cooperating with the police, and they all refuse to talk. (Itim)

Bad-cheque passers on shops' blacklist

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The Retailers Association is preparing a private blacklist of persons who pass bad cheques to protect its members from losing money.

Association secretary Ze'ev Katz told The Jerusalem Post yesterday that because the police were not taking vigorous action against bad cheques, the association had decided to act independently.

Shopkeepers have been asked to inform the association of the names and addresses of customers whose cheques bounce and who subsequently ignore payment demands.

Same team to play against Japan today

By PAUL KOHN, Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Israel will field the same team that beat Japan 2-0 last Sunday in the second leg World Cup game against Japan at Ramat Gan at 2.30 p.m. today.

But Japan is expected to be strengthened considerably by the return of Kishida Kamekichi, the 33-year-old striker, captain and star player who missed the first game because of injury. Kamekichi will undergo a fitness test this morning.

The Japanese will not name their team until shortly before kickoff.

Oded Mechness, the young Netanya striker brought into the Israel team at the last moment on Sunday, retains his place, while Moshe Schweitzer, the National team coach's son, will be on the reserve bench.

The Japanese team returns to Tokyo tomorrow, where it will prepare for its two games against South Korea at the end of the month. The Israel team also flies out tomorrow on its way to Seoul for the return game against South Korea on March 20.

The Israel lineup today will be Sorinav, Leventhal, Avi Cohen, Barr, Leon, Oz, Malmilian, Spiegler (captain), Danti, Mechness and Peretz.

More rain today but weather to clear by weekend

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEIT DAGON. — Winter is back again, with more rain, occasional thunder storms and lower temperatures predicted for today. But the weather will probably clear by the weekend.

People who went out in light spring clothing yesterday morning came home drenched and shivering in the evening. Near gale strength gusts of 35 knots buffeted the country. There were no immediate reports of damage.

The rainfall situation is normal in the northern half of the country, except for the hilly regions. But Judea and the south are still short of the seasonal average.

In Israel's most critical watershed area, the upper Jordan reaches, however, rainfall has been better than average. Lake Kinneret, the country's main water reservoir, continues to rise, and is expected to reach its optimal level by the end of the current rainy season.

Kissinger to get Weizmann doctorate

Special to the Jerusalem Post

Former Secretary of State Dr. Henry Kissinger tonight will be awarded an honorary doctorate by the Weizmann Institute of Science — in a ceremony delayed more than two years.

The award to Kissinger was due to be given in November, 1974, but was postponed until tonight. The award will be made in Washington, and presented by Institute President Prof. Michael Sela.

In conferring the honour, Institute Chancellor Meyer Weislag cited Kissinger as "the principal architect of international conciliation."

Jews one-third of Jo'burg Council

By JOE KUTTNER, Jerusalem Post Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — For the first time in the history of Johannesburg, one-third of the members of the City Council are Jewish. Fourteen Jewish candidates of the anti-apartheid Progressive-Reform Party and one Jewish candidate of the United Party were elected this week to a council in which the Progressive-Reformists emerged as the majority party.

The United Party has lost its overall control of the 47-member council and shrunk to an eleven-member faction.

The Progressive-Reformists have 19 members, with the prospect of gaining another mandate in a ward in which the sitting councillor — a Jewish member of the Progressive-Reform Party — died on the eve of the election. The Nationalists, the ruling party in Parliament, control 16 mandates.

Two popular Jewish candidates, Mr. Monty Sklar, the outgoing mayor (an independent), and Max Neppé, a former mayor (Progressive-Reform) — were beaten at the polls.

The extent of Jewish participation in the municipal elections, both as candidates and voters, has been referred to in the local press as giving the lie to "loose talk about a Jewish exodus or 'disengagement' from South Africa."

Cabinet backs broadening of reserve pay structure

By MARSHA POMERANTZ, Jerusalem Post Reporter

A bill to broaden reserve pay coverage to all army reservists was approved at the Cabinet meeting on Tuesday.

At present only persons who have been continuously employed for a certain period before service, or in certain kinds of educational or work training programmes, were entitled to payment through the National Insurance Institute. They were eligible on condition that their employers (or the self-employed) paid regularly into the equalization fund, to which National Insurance contributed as well.

The proposed law would allow those who have not been eligible until now to receive the minimum reserve service payment, which is 35 per cent of the average national wage.

The bill would also make the State an employer, paying into the equalization fund, like other employers. Until now it has given reserve pay directly to the employee. Today only a minority of government employees (some non-salaried workers) receive reserve pay from the equalization fund.

A final provision of the bill would furnish attorneys to all citizens who submit a claim against the National Insurance Institute in Labour Court.

At present, many citizens fail to press claims when they believe their rights have not been fully recognized, only because they cannot afford a lawyer.

Independent legal aid offices, set up in 1972, will be asked to expand their services to include representing clients in Labour Court against the NII, even if the clients can afford to pay for a private attorney.

The bill still must be passed by the Knesset.

Israel Broadcasting Authority

The Israel Broadcasting Authority Amateur Choir wishes to increase the number of singers in all voices.

If you like to sing please join us!

For details and registration, please write to: Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra (ISA), Rehov Helena Hamalka, Jerusalem, or contact the Orchestra office at the Y.M.C.A. Hall, any Sunday evening, 7 p.m.-8 p.m. Tel. 248587

Marcos sends wife to Moslem peace talks

MANILA — President Ferdinand Marcos is sending his wife to Libya today in an effort to resume peace talks with Moslem separatists, palace sources said.

The sources said Defence Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile, Solicitor-General Estelito Mendoza and Constabulary Chief Fidel Ramos would accompany her to Tripoli, the Libyan capital.

Defence Undersecretary Carmelo Barboza, the Philippine Government's chief negotiator with the Moro National Liberation Front, returned here yesterday and told the National Security Council: "The recessed negotiations in Tripoli require the personal intervention of the President and the First Lady in order to get them going. What we need is personal diplomacy at the highest level."

The closed-door talks, in their second round, were recessed indefinitely after the Moslem group leaked to the press its proposal for an autonomous Moslem regional government in the south and southwestern Philippines. It would include three predominantly Christian provinces and have its own flag, seal and armed forces.

The Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), which intensified its armed opposition to the government after Marcos declared martial law in 1972, had demanded first independence for the 13 provinces on

Mindanao, Palawan and Sulu Islands. The area comprises one-third of the Philippine territory.

Libya supported the Moslems with arms and money. The International Islamic Conference of foreign ministers offered to lead the peace broker and Libya's Gaddafi hosted the first round of talks, which resulted in the cease-fire agreement in December.

Marcos has scheduled a plebiscite on March 17 in the 13 southern Philippine provinces to determine which provinces want to join the autonomous Moslem regional establishment. The Moslem negotiators opposed the idea.

Meanwhile, in Zamboanga City, Major Said Ali Salih of Somalia reported that the cease-fire super-visors are investigating reports of truce violations. He said "as far as we know the MNLF has not violated the cease-fire. But if the MNLF did, we will recommend that all the arms and supplies and support to the MNLF be stopped."

Travellers from Davao City, in central Mindanao, earlier said 800 armed MNLF men tried to take over a village some 30 kms south of the city limits last week. The military persuaded most of them to leave but about 30 engaged the military in a shooting encounter and "most of them got killed." There had been no official reports of this incident. (AP)



Serious-faced actress Sophie Loren, raising her hand in what looks like a military salute, is escorted by a finance policeman at Rome airport yesterday. She was detained nine hours for questioning about her taxes as the police said she was about to board a plane for Paris under a false name. (UPI telephoto)

Sophia Loren questioned for nine hours at Rome airport

ROME — Actress Sophia Loren was stopped by customs police at Rome's international airport. Interrogated and held for nine hours before being allowed to board a plane for Paris early yesterday.

Police said she was stopped for a routine "customs inspection," but police sources reported the action was in connection with an inquiry into tax and currency activities of her husband, movie producer Carlo Ponti.

The 42-year-old Academy Award-winning actress had just passed passport control for a flight to Paris when a customs policeman stopped her and took her to the customs headquarters, where Miss Loren was reported to be in tears.

She told reporters on her arrival in the French capital, "I don't want to make any comment about it. I missed my flight because there were so many photographers around. That's why the police were there."

Asked whether she would stay in France, she replied, "We live here."

Miss Loren was met at Charles de Gaulle airport by her husband.

Last month police searched Ponti's villa in the hills south of Rome and his office in Rome, seeking some papers. The Ponti also have a residence in Paris.

Miss Loren, wearing dark glasses, blue trousers and a blue jacket and shirt, had just walked through the passport checkpoint when an off-

icer stepped up and asked her some questions, witnesses reported. They said she appeared to wave off the questions and was ordered to follow the officer into the customs office, carrying her large suitcase with her.

The actress spent 90 minutes in a telephone booth, and later three lawyers arrived to confer with her, including her chief attorney, Emanuele Gollino.

Shortly before midnight, Ponti telephoned the airport and talked to Gollino. After the conversation, Gollino told reporters, "Nothing is going on. It is a question of a normal customs examination and normal questioning in the framework of an investigation."

Asked what kind of investigation, he replied, "A normal investigation into cinema matters."

Miss Loren had been accompanied to the airport by a woman friend who carried a bag and a large cardboard box. She also delayed her departure to wait for the actress.

Police said they confiscated three sealed envelopes pertaining to banking transactions from Miss Loren's luggage.

In a recent magazine interview, Ponti said he had lost all confidence in Italy. He said he had sent his wife and two children to live in France because he feared Italy's current wave of kidnappings. Italy, he said, was "on the brink of the abyss." (AP, UPI)

Bhutto foes to shun Parliament

LAHORE, Pakistan. — The Pakistani opposition yesterday decided to shun the parliament, alleging that Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto had rigged the polls.

Bhutto led his forces to a landslide victory in Monday's vote, winning 155 of 200 national Assembly seats. Yesterday the nine-party opposition Pakistan National Alliance (PNA) announced that it refused to accept the result and would give up the 36 seats which it secured and so boycott parliament. The PNA also confirmed that it would boycott elections today to the four provincial assemblies.

The elections were the first to be held in the country under civilian rule.

Eight people were killed and 500 injured during the polling. (Reuters)

Rolling Stones deny gathering Mrs. Trudeau

TORONTO. — Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau's 25-year-old wife Margaret may be visiting in New York, but a spokesman for the Rolling Stones denied a report that she had gone there with lead singer Mick Jagger and Ron Wood.

Mrs. Trudeau checked out of a Toronto hotel on Tuesday after spending the weekend there and attending two performances by the rock group at a local night club.

The Stones were staying in the same hotel. Their public relations officer, Paul Wasserman, was quoted on Tuesday night as saying Mrs. Trudeau went to New York with Jagger and Wood and would be staying with a woman friend there.

Yesterday's Wasserman denied reporting that Mrs. Trudeau had told him on Sunday she was planning to go to New York to stay with a woman friend. He said Jagger and Wood flew to New York on Tuesday on different planes — Jagger to see his daughter and Wood for a short holiday — but Mrs. Trudeau was not with either of them.

The Rolling Stones have been in Toronto to make recordings. While in the city, lead guitarist Keith Richards has been charged with possession of hashish for the purpose of trafficking and with possession of cocaine. He appeared in court on Tuesday, posted a \$25,000 bond and was released. (AP)

Italians deny Lockheed payoffs

ROME. — The two former defence ministers charged with corruption in the Lockheed payoff scandal pleaded innocent on Tuesday before parliament. They said they were victims of industry rivalries.

The chamber and Senate have been debating since last Thursday on whether to bring to trial Luigi Gui, a Christian Democrat, and Mario Tanassi, a Social Democrat. The two were indicted in January by a special parliamentary commission investigating the alleged payment of \$1.6m. by the American aircraft company to secure the sale of 14 C-130 transports to the Italian air force.

Gui displayed in parliament a 1969 newspaper reporting that he was visiting an art show in Padua on December 14, the day that according to the commission's findings he met Lockheed officials at the Defence Ministry in Rome.

Tanassi, 61, said the Bank of Italy and customs officers searched through his bank accounts, those of Gui and of their relatives without finding anything irregular. He dismissed as "a liar" an American witness heard by the investigating commission in the U.S., former Lockheed official William Cowden. (AP)

Belgian PM dissolves parliament

BRUSSELS. — Belgian Prime Minister Leo Tindemans met a separatist challenge to his government yesterday by dissolving parliament and announcing that general elections would be held April 17, one year earlier than scheduled.

Tindemans' minority government has not yet resigned.

The prime minister's coalition cabinet lost its majority last week when the smallest of the three partners — the left-wing Walloon nationalist party "Rassemblement Wallon" — abstained in a budget vote. The party subsequently was expelled from the ruling coalition.

The two other partners — Christian Democrats and Liberals — were left with only 106 votes in the 212-seat House of Representatives. (AP)

U.S. poisoned Nazi leader in WWII

WASHINGTON. — The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency acknowledged on Tuesday that the U.S. used germ warfare methods — apparently with success — during World War II.

Agents of the U.S. Office of Strategic Services — the CIA's predecessor — gave food-poisoning to Nazi Germany's chief banker, Hjalmar Schacht, making him so sick he could not attend an important economic meeting, the CIA revealed.

Poisoning Schacht with the bacterium *staphylococcus enteritidis* was cited by the CIA as an example of the successful use of biological warfare. The date of the incident or other details were not revealed.

The account is contained in a CIA report to the U.S. Senate health subcommittee which is examining the extent of U.S. development, testing and use of biological weapons.

Schacht, who died in June 1970 at the age of 88, guided financial policy under Germany's Weimar Republic and for most of the Nazi era.

Activists plan libel suit against 'Izvestia' editor

LONDON. — Three Moscow Jews said they will take legal action against the editor of "Izvestia," the Soviet government newspaper, and the writer of an "open letter" charging Soviet Jewish leaders with espionage on behalf of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Alexander Lerner, Vladimir Slepak and Dima Bellina said in a telephone call that they will attempt to file a suit alleging libel and defamation of character. They told Michael Sherbourne, a London campaigner for Soviet Jewry, that they also intend to sue the two authors of a post-script accompanying the "open letter" in last Friday's "Izvestia."

Anatoly Sharanovsky, one of the people named in "Izvestia," was unable to join in the telephone conversation with Sherbourne because his movements are being restricted by secret police, although he has not been arrested.

Another Soviet Jew, Yosef Begun, was said to be still under arrest on a parasitism charge and further action on his case is likely in five days.

time. In Vilnius, Lithuania, Naim Salansky has been told to report daily, questioning until April 1, although no charges have been laid against him. Another Jew, Amnazar Zayurov, is now in jail in Karakum, Uzbekistan.

In London, Soviet dissident L. m. Alexeyeva yesterday called signatories to the 1975 Helsinki declaration on human rights to the same stand as President Carter.

Mrs. Alexeyeva, a member of Moscow group monitoring the Union's compliance with human rights provisions of the Helsinki declaration on East-West, told a press conference here that without Western interest, repression of dissidents in the Soviet Union would probably much greater.

In a joint statement with the Liberal Party leader James Callaghan, she called for the immediate release of Dr. Yuri Orlov, chair of the "Helsinki Group," and Andrei Ginzburg, who were arrested in Moscow last month. (JTA)

Attacks in Washington

(Continued from page one)

English Radio said a radio reporter from WEAR had been killed in the City Hall attack.

The reporter overheard, on a telephone line, the gunmen talking in the background, apparently on another telephone line, and saying: "And when they shoot one up here, you kill one down there." That implied contact between two sets of gunmen, but the man would not answer questions on that subject.

The Hanafi Moslems believe in a literal interpretation of the Koran. The group says its followers are the only true Moslems.

Seven Hanafis were murdered in 1973 in a conflict between black American Moslems.

The leader of the group at B'nai B'rith, Khalifa Hamasa Abdul Khaliq, told Reuters by telephone that the film, "Muhammad, Messenger of God," misrepresented the Moslem faith. "It is fiction," he shouted in an agitated voice. "It is playing with our faith."

The first shooting drama began around 11 a.m. EST (6 p.m. in Israel) when four armed men burst into the B'nai B'rith building and seized 100 hostages, police said.

About four hours later, 16 of the hostages were released and were being questioned by police.

The second incident began an hour later about 5 kms away, at the Islamic Centre, where at least one man was holding 15 people hostage. No other details were available.

The third incident — at City Hall — apparently started about four hours after B'nai B'rith was stormed.

Hundreds of police surrounded the eight-story block containing the B'nai B'rith offices and a helicopter hovered overhead.

Shots rang out soon after the gunmen — carrying at least one rifle and a knife — ran through the lobby of the building and rushed upstairs.

The armed group arrived at B'nai B'rith in a van police said was hired by a person "with an Arab-sounding name."

At least five persons were injured from shootings and beatings. In a telephone conversation, the leader said, "We're going to kill a lot of people. Don't ask me why, just listen."

After the gunmen took over the B'nai B'rith offices, they began blocking out windows with paint rollers on other sides of the occupied floor.

The gunmen reportedly were interviewing the hostages they held, and were releasing some of them. There was one report that Jews were being held and Christians released.

Outside the Islamic Centre, a man who identified himself as Col. Rafiq Bilal said he talked with a gunman there and quoted him as saying that if police began shooting, "heads will roll."

"He was very excited. He would tell me what he wanted but said nothing. He said the man had a head an accomplice because kept referring to 'we' as he made his threats."

"We're just sitting here and waiting at each other," a woman barricaded in her fifth floor office of the B'nai B'rith building told over the telephone.

The woman, who asked that her name not be used, said there were five women with her, with chairs and bookcases up against the door for protection against gunmen who were holding hostages in the building.

"We're fine. We're barricaded," she said. She added that they had information about what was going on around them.

A staff member had gone to the halls before noon to tell everyone to barricade themselves in their offices, she said.

Another woman who answered a telephone in the building said softly, "We don't have any information. We hear noise. Goodbye," and hung up.

Another woman employee, reached by telephone, said she and another office after also heard shots. She said that at one point in the ordeal she heard a woman scream from somewhere near.

"Let me the hell out of here," she said the never saw the gunmen, heard shots and glass breaking.

Late last night, Israeli television reports appeared to be conflicting. While most agencies said that was not clear whether there was a connection between all the groups of gunmen, a police spokesman told the AP that the attackers were in communication with each other. (AP, UPI, Reuters)

Rabin ceremonies cancelled abruptly

WASHINGTON. — Departure ceremonies for Prime Minister Rabin were abruptly cancelled.

Military cannons, a red carpet and two helicopters were in position for the formal departure ceremony near the Washington Monument.

Then, suddenly, the helicopters turned to the air and a few seconds later Rabin's limousine and a surrounding motorcade laden with security vehicles careened past without a ping.

Israeli Embassy officials said Rabin was being driven to Andover Air Force Base in nearby Maryland to board his plane. Instead of leaving for Rabin party, the helicopter flew over the motorcade as it moved away.

Israeli officials would say that the ceremony was skipped for security reasons.

Team probes sale of weapon

(Continued from page one)

prevented, which would mean \$15m over two years — including about \$9m in seed value.

On top of that, the very capacity of the Israel Aircraft Industries to carry on making the Kfir under reasonable economic conditions in the future would also be seriously impaired, he went on.

Arens said that apart from the damage on the Ecuador deal, the American ban would spoil Kfir export prospects worth between \$1,000m-\$2,000m. All the local firms supplying components and sub-systems would suffer too.

Israel would have to make sure in the future that no American systems are included in new development if the U.S. administration declares that it will insist on being consulted with regard to future arms exports.

he said. This year alone these exports will come to some \$60m.

The IAI chose the American J-79 motor for its Kfir, Arens said, in preference to two other motors offered — one British and one French. None of the Israeli planes feared at the time that the Gen Electric motor would make it hard to export the plane to Western countries.

This U.S. ban flouts the rules of game in the Western arms market, Arens said. Such bans come in the event of a planned or hostile power or when the defies publicised policy.

If Ecuador does not buy the Kfir, he said, the Soviet Sukhoi-26 aircraft bought by Peru, or the F-16 chosen by Ecuador over the Northrop F-5a, which was also bought by Brazil and Chile.

Secretary Cyrus Vance claimed the F-5a was inferior to the Kfir. Israel is well aware that its nation and radar systems are some of the most modern available, and causing concern here because are in Saudi Arabia.

Arens accused the Government of bungling the whole Kfir sales effort.

After World War II, he stood trial for war crimes but was acquitted; in the postwar years he regained his former prosperity and served as an economic adviser to Iran, Indonesia and Egypt.

Use of a new kind of biological weapon — genetic recombination — seems to be ruled out by existing international treaties, U.S. officials have concluded.

Lawyers, scientists and laymen discussing the weapons potential of recombinant DNA research said on Tuesday that treaties and difficulties in doing any of this kind of genetic work seriously limit its use as a weapon by countries or terrorists.

Analysis of possible weapons use came in a workshop at a public forum sponsored by the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. The meeting focused on the safety and potential of recombinant DNA, which involves modifying the genetic nature of organisms.


Proponents of the work say it could have many benefits, including making new drugs and chemicals, developing new food crops.

Critics say the research in creating new disease organisms, which there is no defence, super-germs could be used as weapons.

The workshop leader, Dr. Mark Meselson of the biochemistry department at Harvard University, said few people discussing potential dangers of recombinant DNA work know safeguards already are built into the research.

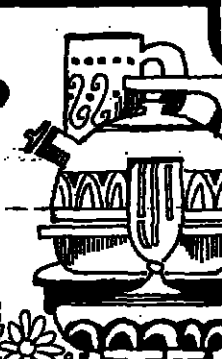
John McNeill, a lawyer with U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, said the Biological Weapons Convention prohibits developing or stockpiling such weapons and delivery systems for them.

McNeill said 65 nations, including the U.S. and Soviet Union, have ratified the treaty and more than 100 others have signed it pending ratification. Notable exceptions include China and France, he added.



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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 1977

SINCE & FINANCE

Market static

AVIV. — A virtual "freeze" on prices of shares seemed to have imposed by the investment community yesterday. Among the shares the big three saw their prices remain unchanged. Mizrahi was marked down 1 point in the opening round, to 370. The lower price reflected the fact that the shares are now traded out rights attached. In the tables they rose by half a point to 370.5.

The mortgage banks followed the pattern, the one exception being Carmel, which was "buyers" and eventually closed out at a 17-point overall gain on the day.

Investment company issues sent a mixed picture. There were some small scattered gains.

Most active issues

B. Leumi	303.5 N.C.	IL 115,200
Hapoalim	307 N.C.	IL 123,200
Mizrahi	184.5 -10.5	IL 103,500
Shares traded:		IL 2.8m.
Variables:		IL 12.8m.
Bonds:		IL 0.6 -114g.
Natad:		IL 0.6 -114g.
Demand:		IL 0.6 -114g.
Turnover:		IL 70,000

Sole Bond 10% pref.	888	400
Property & Building	289.5	289.5
Israel	285	285
Maharim	285	285
I.C.P. Citrus	285	285
Neot Aviv	285	285
Pri Or Ltd.	285	285
Rasaco - 5% pref.	285	285
Rasaco	285	285

INDUSTRIAL		
Alliance - B	285	285
Electra - 5	285	285
Argaman - 5%	285	285
Ata - C	285	285
Dubak	285	285
Elect. Wire & Cable	285	285
Teva	285	285
Chem. & Phosphates	285	285
Lewin Epstein	285	285
Moller Textile	285	285
Paper Mills	285	285
Asia - B	285	285
Nechustan 5% pref.	285	285
Elite	285	285
Shemen - 5% pref.	285	285
Frutrom	285	285
Frutrom New	285	285
Frutrom IL2	285	285

INVESTMENT COMPANIES		
Elgar	285	285
Elgar	285	285
Israel Central Trade	285	285
Hapoalim	285	285
Wolman - IL10	285	285
Ampa	285	285
Discount	285	285
United Mizrahi	285	285
Bank Leumi	285	285
Export Bank	285	285
Cial	285	285
Cial Industries	285	285

FUEL, OIL AND UTILITIES		
Naphta OTC	1180	1170
Lapidoth OTC	1180	1170
Jordan Warrants	2070	2070
Jordan Warrants	2070	2070
Israel Electric Corp.	320	322

Reported by the UNION BANK OF ISRAEL LTD.		
IL 140	140	
IL 140	140	
IL 140	140	

Plight of the hotel industry

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The figures show that more tourists came to Israel last year than ever before, but Yehuda Greenbaum, president of the Jerusalem Hotel Association, says that none the less the hotels are in a bad way.

Despite the increase in visitors (and he notes that many of them are not bona fide tourists) the national average occupancy rate was only some 50 per cent. Even in Jerusalem, focal point of the nation's tourism, five-star hotels only had 49 per cent occupancy last year.

"Any hotel owner would sell tomorrow if someone offered to buy," he said in a recent interview. "The hotels may break even, but on the average they don't make money."

Greenbaum, who is also the manager of the President Hotel in Jerusalem, echoed Tourism Ministry complaints that the ministry does not have enough funds. But unlike ministry officials, he tends to put at least some of the blame on the minister.

One problem, he says, is the fact that an important industry has been put in the hands of a small and weak party, the Independent Liberals, who are unable to fight for it. On the other hand, he notes, the Tourism Minister has threatened to resign over political issues, such as a national health plan, but not over such tourism-oriented issues as the incentive payments to hotels.

Greenbaum supports the principle of a Tourism Ministry, but he hopes

that after the elections it will come under the aegis of the ruling party, whichever that may be. Better, he says, to become part of the Commerce and Industry Ministry than to remain in the present restricted format.

Of prime importance, he says, is the need for greater promotion abroad. The time has come for the hotels, El Al and the ministry to get together and plan a vast advertising campaign. At present, Tourism Ministry representatives abroad have next to no money, he says.

This, he feels, would aid in curing one of the chronic problems of the tourism industry — the five "dead" months, when there are very few visitors. The charter have helped to cure this to some extent but more work is necessary.

Boosting the slack season would

also do much to improve service in the hotels. At present, the workers, who depend to a large extent on a percentage of the service charge must expect a period when they earn very little. This pushes the better workers out of the trade.

The failure of the government to pay full export incentives payments also has its effect. The hotels must cut corners somewhere to make up the money. Then such attractions as the traditional lavish Israeli breakfast will suffer.

He also cannot understand the government's failure to approve a cartel of hotel prices. As it is, he says, Israel's hotel prices are far lower than those of Western Europe. Without the cartel, he says, the hotels are at the mercy of unscrupulous travel agents during the off-season.

He decries official intransigence in providing entertainment for tourists. There is no reason, he says, not to have a gambling casino in Eilat. On another plane, tourists cannot understand why they should have to pay a 25 per cent tax on bar mitzvah celebration parties in hotels, even if they pay the bill in foreign currency. In nightclubs too, taxes constitute up to 50 per cent of the bill.

In short, he feels, there must be a total revision of official thinking regarding tourism.

"Until they realize that we are just as good for the economy as any stocking factory," he says, "this unfortunate situation will continue."

Workers say three managers could travel together in one company car

By YITZHAK OKED, Jerusalem Post Reporter

ASHDOD. — Representatives of the 300 workers of the Rogosin synthetic textile plant here have sent a memo to the management urging it to stop the wasteful use of company cars.

The workers say that three of the company's managers, who each drive a company car, are residents of Ashdod and could commute to Ashdod 20km. away in one shared vehicle.

The workers also charge that some

Workers to learn about management

The first university-level seminar for factory workers and foremen opens today at Tel Aviv University.

The course, with 40 participants, will meet every Thursday for a full day and offer lectures on economics, management and worker participation in management.

There will be several study tours during the 300 hours of instruction.

Professor Aryeh Globerson, head of the Work Studies Department at the university, will head the course, which is sponsored by the university, the Histadrut and the Ministry of Labour.

First Jerusalem jewellery fair showed sparkle and promise

By JOANNA YERIEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

"A good start... well-organized... should help to bring in more buyers next year... compares well with other shows in price and quality..." were some of the comments from foreign buyers and local manufacturers this week, as Israel's first Jewellery and Arts and Crafts trade fair neared its end.

The main responsible for bringing a group of almost 80 buyers and journalists from the U.S. (led by Mrs. Ruth Fortunoff, of Fortunoff Jewellery Stores in New York), the associate publisher of the "National Jeweller," Ira Kinsler, put it this way: "You have the nucleus of a good trade fair here. The merchandise is interesting; if there is a problem, it's that your manufacturers aren't too sure of their prices."

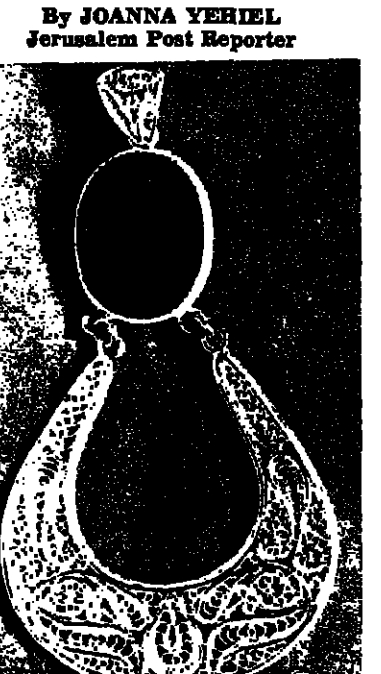
Clive Cavento, of the Jewellery and Arts and Crafts section of the British-Israel Chamber of Commerce, had tougher words for the industry: "Israeli manufacturers must realize that sympathy buying is out. They must be able to compete. For this, they must be helped financially by government departments."

However, Ya'acov Danai, chairman of the fair's organizing committee and chairman of the Export Institute's Arts and Crafts Centre, said that, for a first national jewellery show, he was more than happy with the results. "We frankly expected only about 70 to 80 buyers — and some 200 turned up."

Buyers came from Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Greece, Holland, Norway, Germany, Sweden, the U.K., the U.S., and from as far away as Mexico, Australia, Singapore, New Zealand and even Thailand.

And did they buy? Replies from manufacturers were mixed. "We've done \$50,000 worth of business already, in two days," said a jubilant Edmund Tobias, owner of Tobias Jewellery, who makes Yeminite and modern silver jewellery.

"All the buyers came here on the first day and they were flustered within a day or two. We should organize it like a show abroad, where a constant stream of buyers comes in, instead of bringing them



Pendant by Dana of Jerusalem

all... in on the same day," was the comment of Jacob Levitan, of the Jerusalem Export House, which sells olive wood carvings and mother-of-pearl products.

"I don't think it's important how much is sold this time," said Hanna Avrahami, owner, with her husband Ran, of Dana, maker of silver and gold jewellery. "We shouldn't expect too much of the first trade show. The buyers are also testing us, this time."

The buyers themselves were enthusiastic about styling, about finish, and (in some cases) even about price. "Prices compare very well with the cost of silver jewellery in the U.S.," according to M. Barron from Phoenix, Arizona. (He runs an Indian Art Gallery chain, and he told me, the Indians, too, make Stars of David, "but your prices are cheaper.")

One suggestion well worth consideration by the fair's organizers —

the Jerusalem Economic Conference, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Arts and Crafts Centre of the Export Institute — was made by Bryan Newman, owner of Ne'eman Jewellery, who makes sterling silver and gold rings, chains, and pendants. "Why don't we expand the show to a Mediterranean Jewellery Fair? To include the whole area, Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, too? After all, the International Jewellery Association show in New York, and the Frankfurt show aren't restricted to American or German firms; all the world comes to show at them. If we made it a show for the whole Mediterranean, we'd have much more to offer buyers."

What kind of jewellery and craft was on show? And who are the manufacturers considered big enough to cope with large (hopefully) export orders?

Several firms are in kibbutzim; firms like Saron, at Kibbutz Ma'agan Michael, which is producing photo-fabricated jewellery as an off-shot of its photo-etching plant which makes precision-thin metal parts for industry. Vered Megiddo Jewellery, of Kibbutz Megiddo, makes silver rings, bracelets, earrings and chains. Almat, another kibbutz firm, this time at Ashdot Ya'acov, makes embossed anodized aluminium jewellery and decorative accessories.

Maasik showed jewellery mainly in silver, from its own workshops. Leder Bros. had a big display of gold watchbands and chains. Sterling silver pendants and rings including semi-precious stones, designed by Menahem Berman, were shown by Av-Dor Jewellery, of Tel Aviv. Sterling silver and replicas of articles in the Israel Museum were shown by J. Bler.

On the arts and crafts side, there were stuffed dolls by Getz and Getz of Tel Aviv; mosaic tables, wall plaques and vases by Elion ceramic wall decorations by Zohar Ceramics; hand-coloured glass and ceramics by Niv Loh, copper articles by Avraham Shinar; porcelain by Na'aman, and ceramic ware by Lapid.

All-party Commons c'ttee to fight Arab boycott

LONDON. — Talks are taking place here on the formation of an all-party committee of Members of Parliament to lead the fight against the Arab boycott.

Jeremy Thorpe, former leader of the Liberal Party and now its foreign affairs spokesman, has agreed to serve as chairman of the committee, whose founding members will include former Minister Sir Hugh Fraser, chairman of the Conservative Friends of Israel.

The committee is intended to supplement the campaigns against the boycott already being carried out by individual MPs and existing pro-Israel groups within the parties.

A five-man Labour Friends of Israel delegation which met Trade Secretary Edmund Dell last week, failed to elicit a pledge that the government would begin to take a stronger public line against the boycott. Dell turned down a plea that the government should cease assisting the boycott by authenticating certificates that goods bound for the Arab world are not of Israeli origin.

Eric Moonman, the Labour MP who is chairman of the Zionist Federation, also had what he termed a "disgraceful" reply to a letter which he wrote to Dell on the subject, asking for a more forthright British stance. Moonman said that the Anglo-Jewish community must begin to be far more active over the boycott than it has been in the past.

However, another Jewish Labour MP, Greville Janner, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, that he was now more hopeful of securing a change in policy through the Foreign Office than through the Trade Department, especially in the light of statements by Dr. David Owen only a short time before he became the Foreign Secretary. Greville Janner, a vice-president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, said that recent statements by other members of the government on the boycott, were also an improvement on past statements.

Gideon Rafael, the retiring Israeli ambassador to London, said last week that the Arab boycott was the one issue on which he regarded Anglo-Israeli relations to be unsatisfactory. (JTA)

U.S. olim want higher exchange rate for their Social Security dollars

By LEA LEVAVI, Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel is demanding better exchange rates for the dollars which retired American olim receive for their Social Security benefits now.

According to American embassy estimates, there are some 6,000 U.S. Social Security recipients here, who collect about \$15m. annually.

A.A.C.I.'s senior citizens (members over 65) decided to demand more pounds for their dollars when they discovered that people receiving German reparation payments can redeem part of their dollars at Natad rates. (The Natad rate now is IL10.60, compared with IL8.15 for regular dollars). "There is one rate for the hotel industry, another for exporters and a third for someone else," said attorney Yitzhak Helmsworth, president of A.A.C.I.

One "senior citizen" said he thinks retired Americans should get exporters rates because they bring money into the country without taking anything away from the economy. "We don't take jobs, our children don't go to school here, but we are shoppers who spend money," Helmsworth had written to the Finance Minister on this matter but received a negative reply.

Treasury sources point out that only producers of different categories get incentives over and above the official exchange rate. Investors, for example, get no more than the official rate for the money they bring in.

The special rate given to recipients of German reparation payments is part of an agreement with the German government, a Ministry spokesman explained. The government cannot give American olim or any other group a higher exchange rate, he went on, because this would start a demand for "premiums on dollars" from other sectors.

What the small claims court is for

Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter

Business firms would not be allowed to file suits in the small claims court opening for the first time in Tel Aviv next month, under an amendment to the Small Claims Adjudication Law, which was passed on the first reading yesterday.

Moshe Shahal (Alignment), who presented the amendment, said the small claims courts were meant for the private citizen to protect his rights against the businessman, and not for the firm to collect its bills from the private citizen.

He said the privilege of filing suits was only given to firms in the committee stage of the original bill as a result of a fluke. It was against the intention of the Justice Ministry, and happened because only three MKs were present during the committee session.

The amendment would become law before the recess later this month, Shahal told The Post.

The ceiling in small claims will be IL5,000.

COINS AND MEDALS

TEL AVIV. — For a number of weeks we have felt that the prices submitted by our contacts did not reflect the true conditions of the market. At the same time the Tel Aviv-Jaffa Chamber of Commerce ceased to publish its weekly lists, which were based on figures submitted by a number of local coin dealers.

In the past fortnight we have carried out a number of transactions. The prices received were much lower than the prices listed. In view of this we have scaled down our "middle quotations" to give readers a more accurate guideline to the secondary coin market in Tel Aviv.

The American-Israel Numismatic Association is currently celebrating its 10th anniversary. As part of the celebrations a 100-member tour is visiting Israel as part of a two-week study tour. The Numismatic Association has more than 5,000 members in the U.S. and it has assisted in the formation of 52 Israeli numismatic societies. The most recently formed is that in Alaska. Members meet once a month in discussion groups whose main topic is a subject related to Israel.

Subscription for the Entebbe medallions closed at the end of February. Sources at the coins corporation indicate that the subscription was an unqualified success. It is still too early to assess the behaviour of the Entebbe medal on the secondary market.

Among the gold medallions the Harp is drawing speculative appeal and its price has risen to a level above IL28,000.

	IL	\$
Herzl	4,050	450
Weizmann	6,565	730
Bank Israel	6,983	765
Bank Israel	42,375	4,725
Victory	5,815	650
Jerusalem	3,150	355
Shalom	2,775	315
Let My People Go	3,150	345
25th Anniversary	4,050	450
Ben-Gurion	2,200	245
Bonds	1,800	200
Bar Mitzva	3,490	390
Crusaders	2,140	240
Massada	4,315	480

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Prof. David Schneider

University of Chicago, U.S.A.

Subject: Culture, Meaning and Social Structure

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March 14, 1977 8.15 p.m.

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Friday, March 11, 8.30 p.m.
Beit Katz — KIRYAT BIALIK
Tickets: At the Secretariat

Saturday, March 12, 8.00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 22, 8.00 p.m.
Nachmani — TEL AVIV
Tickets: Rococo, Union

Sunday, March 13, 8.30 p.m.
Beit Ha'am — RAMOT HAHAVIM
Tickets: At the Secretariat
Ramotayim — At the Sharon Pharmacy
Ra'anana — Unger, Rehov Ahuva

Monday, March 14, 8.30 p.m.
Beit Ha'am — JERUSALEM
Tickets: Cahane

Tuesday, March 15, 6.00 p.m.
Shavit — HAIFA

Saturday, March 19, 6.00 p.m.
Beitenu — HAIFA
Tickets: Only at Nova, 32-34 Rehov Herzl

Wednesday, March 16, 8.30 p.m.
Beit Hahistadrut — RAMAT GAN
Tickets: Histadrut Offices

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The new Washington

THE SMILES, handclaps, backslapping, showering of personal praise and national compliments that we have witnessed in Washington this week obviously have the inevitable element of theatricality about them. But, having said that, the demonstration of public warmth and understanding which Premier Rabin encountered at the White House was deeply gratifying nevertheless.

One of the main purposes of his visit was to establish a direct rapport with the new Administration — and to that extent the visit seems to have been a marked success.

After years of genuinely felt and sincerely expressed friendship on the parts of Presidents Johnson, Nixon and Ford, and the close relationship with Secretary of State Kissinger, there was some trepidation in Jerusalem at the advent of a new and largely unknown Administration. President Carter's public words and actions these past two days will have done much to set Israeli minds at ease. They are ground for confidence that the "special relationship" at the personal level between the leaders of the two countries will be quickly built up again.

Certainly the charges of electioneering levelled at Premier Rabin, by the Likud's Ezer Weizman for example, for going to Washington at this time, are crudely unfair.

Mr. Rabin has perhaps been guilty on occasion of having mixed politics with statecraft, but this is not such an occasion. It would have been inconceivable to allow a procession of Arab leaders to present their case in Washington in the weeks ahead while the Israeli side was silent.

More valid and to the point is the observation, voiced by men on both sides of the Knesset floor, that the Premier's hands are inevitably tied by the pre-election situation. That is true constitutionally: he cannot be said to have the moral authority to enter into far-reaching commitments which might be reneged upon by his successor on May 18.

It is also true politically: his own Labour Party, still in the uneasy aftermath of a power struggle, and acutely conscious of the electoral battle ahead, did not empower him to enter into substantive discussion — or, in plainer English, to draw maps.

Labour's recent convention abided away even from deciding in principle whether it favoured territorial concessions on the West Bank as part of an end-of-war accord. The Party managers felt that the issue was potentially too divisive to risk thrashing it out on the convention floor.

In the Cabinet, too, that key question has been assiduously avoided, in the almost certain knowledge that it would provoke dangerous disputes.

Neither the cheerful ambience in the White House banquet hall, however, nor the pre-election excitement back home, should be allowed to blur the hard realities of the months ahead. Premier Rabin should be convinced now, if he was not before, of the earnestness of Washington's desire and intent to re-launch the Geneva negotiation process and the process of territorial compromise as Mr. Carter made clear in his press conference yesterday.

The main immediate obstacle to Geneva is the question of Palestinian participation. The U.S. is plainly hoping to induce, through the influence of the moderate Arab states, a change in the PLO stance, though Israel is adamantly against any negotiating role for the terrorist organization.

Similarly Israel's deliberate vagueness on the territorial question, in the context of either an overall or an end-of-war settlement, could endanger the "strategic coordination" with the U.S. which Premier Rabin seeks to foster. If the Carter peace initiative does get off the ground, Israel will have to grapple willy-nilly with these problems.

In the nature of things Premier Rabin wants to put the elections behind him before focusing on the specifics of the peace equation. But the voter will be thinking about these very issues before Polling Day and will be looking to Labour, and indeed to the other parties, for clear guidance on where they stand.

If Mr. Carter did not ask Premier Rabin the nine-year-old question which Lyndon Johnson asked Levi Eshkol, "What kind of Israel do you want, Mr. Prime Minister?" — he apparently gave him notice that the question will be posed in the months ahead.

Africans unrewarded

THE AFRO-ARAB summit conference which closed in Cairo yesterday had been expected to serve two main purposes.

First, it was designed to firm up African support for the Arab cause in the Middle East. That, in fact, was Anwar Sadat's underlying motive in asking for such a summit at the time he launched his "diplomatic offensive" last year. Secondly, the conference was to assure the Africans that their political backing would be duly rewarded with some cold cash.

So far, it has not been. When 29 African nations severed their diplomatic relations with Israel following the Yom Kippur War, they did so with a fusillade of rhetoric about the denial of Arab rights — but actually in return for pledges of massive financial aid by the oil-rich Arab states. The stream of eagerly awaited petrodollars, however, turned out to be a shallow rivulet, and in a number of cases a wholly dry creek.

As a result, there have lately been rumblings of discontent in African capitals about the stinginess of the Arabs. Regrets have been expressed over the loss, in many cases, of Israel's modest but effective assistance, which the Arabs have hardly even tried to match. African leaders have come to realize that the entire Arab aid programme did not come near compensating them for the drain on their economies caused by skyrocketing oil prices.

Recent meetings between the Presidents of Senegal and the Ivory Coast and the leaders of Israel gave the Arabs some occasion for worry. No less disconcerting must have been the open griping of Uganda's Idi Amin, who, though a distinct embarrassment, is nevertheless viewed as an Arab ally and an asset.

The Cairo summit was therefore convened to help still the criticisms and to forge new Afro-Arab unity.

From the very start, the conference proved to be something less than an unqualified success. Africa's leading chiefs of state simply did not show up in the Egyptian capital. Among the absentees was Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere, who had asked for an Arab pledge of \$2.5b. to black Africa for a period of 5 years, but evidently despaired of it in advance.

Instead of highlighting the essential harmony of interests between Arabs and Africans, the conference brought to the fore the conflicts among the participants. Egypt's became verbally embroiled with Libya, Ethiopia with Sudan, and Benin with Morocco and Gabon.

In the final communiqué, as usual, there was a brave attempt to paper over the existing differences. An appeal was made for closer ties between Arabs and Africans, and a decision was recorded for tri-annual meetings between the heads of state. A separate announcement revealed that the Arab principalities would favour the poor Africans with \$1.5b. — one billion of which was to be contributed by Saudi Arabia alone — over an unspecified number of years.

This is but a drop in the bucket of African needs. And it is going to be partitioned out, if at all, by the Arab donors themselves, as they please.

The wisest course for the Africans would be not to expect even this little. After all, they cannot claim preferential treatment over the Egyptians and the Syrians, who themselves have been bitterly complaining of the humiliating pittance they are receiving from their Arab brethren.

Perhaps it is time for the leaders of Africa to declare their independence of Arab oil colonialism. At the very least, they should free their minds of the illusion that by keeping their distance from Israel they will make progress towards their goals of development and prosperity.

Areas of definition

Minister without Portfolio YISRAEL GALILI is proud of his role in getting the Labour convention to reaffirm the party's now traditional stand on the territories; and he resents MK Moshe Dayan's suggestion of an erosion in the established doctrine. DAVID LANDAU reports.

YISRAEL GALILI sees himself as Defender of the Faith — passionate protector of that doctrine of secure borders which the mainstream of Labour has adopted over the years. In effect — and certainly in practice on the ground — it is the "Allon Plan." But since that very name raises hackles in some Labour quarters, Galili — though Allon's ardent friend and admirer — prefers to dispense with the name, in the interests of the issue.

Instead, as chairman of the Ministerial Committee on Settlement, he quietly and doggedly implements it. And, sublimely secure in his apparently permanent role of resident emissary, he and older statesman still-in-office, he determinedly shores up the ideological and political bulwarks that guard the doctrine.

It was Galili, with his uncanny mastery of the language of abstract nouns, who shepherded the doctrine through its inchoate semi-official expression: Labour's 1968 "Oral Law." With deft skill he guided it through the subsequent years of diplomatic pressures, Cabinet debates, Knesset assaults, to enshrine it in the September 1973 "Galili Document." Incredibly, even the war and its black-mooded aftermath made few inroads in what had by now become an almost hallowed dogma. Galili masterminded the "Fourteen Points" in December, 1973, suffering only the mere hint of suffering to nibble at the earlier text.

Four years, three interim agreements, and a major political shake-up later, Galili asked the Labour Party convention last month in effect to re-endorse the creed — and the convention dutifully complied.

He braved the doves in his own ex-Ahud Avoda or in ex-Ma'apal to challenge to submit their well-known and consistent objections to the ultimate trial of a convention vote.

"FOR A WHOLE year before the convention," he says, "I baited the bears to come out of the forest." (For some reason Galili prefers a zoological metaphor to the ornithological one in general usage.) "But it didn't happen — because they knew that out in the clearing the smallness and weakness of their forces would be exposed for all to see."

He does not accept the contention that such grandiose articles and unashamed doves, as Abba Eban, Yitzhak Navon and Yisrael Sarid were quiescent this time on the ideological front because of their involvement in Peres's campaign for the leadership. "No," he says, "that's not it. The bears said to themselves: 'If Galili wants us to come out and fight, he must know we'll do badly; so we had better stay put in the forest...'"

Imagine, then, Galili's righteous wrath and disappointment to find that, despite his meticulous planning and manoeuvring, and his zealous oratory from the podium, the Labour convention is widely seen as having marked a softening of the party line on borders and settlement policy.

He blames the press and the pundits for slapdash interpretation — for failing to study the relevant texts with sufficient care. But above all he blames Moshe Dayan, who, by forcing (and losing) those two dramatic votes on the last day of the convention, "has put the party's policy platform in an utterly distorted light."

What particularly rankles with Galili is that Dayan, as he believes, introduced his two reservations out of mixed motives: as much to chide Peres (for consorting with the doves) as to make an ideological point.

THE TWO RESOLUTIONS in question had been delicately moulded by Galili and passed unanimously by the "political resolutions sub-committee" chaired by Haim Bibitz Ramat Hashikma Danny Rosolio. One pledged that settlement would continue "... subject to government decision, priority being given to the



Yisrael Galili

FOR DAYAN to claim, as he did, that the reintroduction of the delineation now was a sop to the doves is a perfect contravention of the truth, Galili insists.

(Dayan's proposal had "Kadumite significance," he notes, and for that reason alone, if for no other, it had to be opposed.)

Dayan's second reservation was even less substantial, says Galili. Even if the words "with each of them" were omitted the text that remained would still provide for territorial concessions on the Jordanian front. Nor did Dayan, in his out such concessions, flout the rule that he insisted on a showdown vote? It was merely a show of force, Galili believes, aimed at impressing Peres as much as Rabin.

Its effect, though, has been deleterious to the very cause which Dayan himself ostensibly espouses: maintaining Labour's standing as a movement which broadly favours active settlement across the "green line." Dayan's defeat is being unjustified, but inevitably held up by the Party doves as their victory. Whereas without Dayan's last-day dramatics the doves, says Galili, would have been convincingly contained.

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READERS' LETTERS

LIFE IS AN INALIENABLE RIGHT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Secularists throughout Israel are undoubtedly rejoicing over the thrashing of religionists in the battle over the abortion bill. Many humanists, however, may be having sober second thoughts. Permission to shed human blood, even of a not-yet viable individual, or to tear off a part of one's own body, destroys a cornerstone of humanistic and democratic civilization.

Civilization as developed in the free countries of the West rests on a belief in the sanctity of human life. In 200 years there has been no improvement upon Thomas Jefferson's terse summary of that creed as set forth in the Declaration of Independence by the American Colonies. Therein he wrote, "Life (is) an inalienable right — endowed by the Creator." Supporters of the right of a woman to abort her potential offspring have rested their case on the claim of "ownership" by the woman of her own body and have indeed argued that the "inalienability of life" is a warranty of life by each person to his own body and to the right of disposition thereof. This is a grave error. Life was declared "inalienable" for the very opposite reason. John Locke, Jefferson's mentor in political philosophy, stated clearly what Jefferson merely hinted at: people cannot assign to a government what is not theirs, to wit, the disposition of their bodies which are the work of the Divine Creator which He entrusts to mankind as an endowment.

One need not speculate as to the consequences of displacing a belief in the sanctity of life by a belief in the ownership of one's person. Many are already evident in places that have adopted liberal abortion laws. Rape is no longer a heinous crime. Euthanasia is discussed seriously and is in fact practised, *sub rosa*, in the same manner that abortions were formerly handled. Medical experimentation is edging closer to the use of viable fetuses and of living persons. The legalization of abortion must inevitably produce a public callousness towards human life that will seek compensation in maudlin sympathy for animals, wild life and trees.

An abortion may not be murder, but it is the shedding of human blood concerning which Torah states that one who so sheds blood deserves to have his blood shed. This was the great lesson which the Jewish people taught mankind. Should not every believer in the true and sacred quality of human life tremble at the thought of a woman's right to abort? Legalization of the right to abort?

REUBEN GROSS,
Senior Vice-President,
The Union of Orthodox Jewish
Congregations of America
New York.

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POSTSCRIPTS

THE FUNERAL in Holon's stark, treeless cemetery last Sunday was reminiscent of the grim ending of a Hollywood gangster movie. The few men who came to pay their last respects to Joe "Doc" Stasher wore dark glasses, dark suits and wide-brimmed hats. There was not even the necessary *minyan* of ten males until Meir Doron, an uninvited reporter from "Ha'Olam Haze," arrived after receiving an anonymous tip.

For Stasher, who died at the age of 72 after a heart attack in a Munich hotel, had been an associate of Meyer Lansky and like him was alleged to have been a well-known figure in the American underworld. Unlike Lansky, however, Stasher obtained Israeli citizenship before the authorities had any idea of his background. He had been living in Israel since the middle 'sixties, after fleeing from charges of tax evasion in the United States.

Although believed to have been a millionaire, and to have been generous to religious causes here, there had been no money in the safe in Stasher's room at the Pal Hotel. He had been living on his social security cheques, like any other retired American citizen coming to spend his last days in Israel. It was only when a woman friend put up IL2,500 in cash that the stone-mason agreed to begin work on a headstone.

The handful of mourners included Stasher's son Stephen, a Los Angeles lawyer, his daughter Julie who arrived at the last moment, his bodyguard, Lansky's bodyguard and two women friends.

WHEN is a policeman not a policeman? Apparently, when he is a traffic cop on a campus.

The hallowed creed that the police

are not allowed to enter the groves of Academe in order to safeguard academic freedom has been bent slightly in the case of the Haifa Technion.

Following a number of accidents on the badly-planned roads through the Technion campus, which are formally considered public thoroughfares and are officially sign-posted, the Haifa traffic police has quietly begun to control traffic and parking there.

The Students' Union, according to its chairman, Aviv Shoham, has tacitly agreed to the police presence "for lack of alternatives" and in view of the accidents and the traffic problems. The Union would like to see a student unit taking over traffic control from the police. But until such a scheme is worked out, the Union cannot object to the police doing the job.

The campus roads have been criticized for their bad planning, not least by the Technion's own Road Safety Centre. Since the Technion trains the country's traffic engineers, it seems to be a clear case of "Physician, heal thyself."

QUEEN ESTHER is alive and well and handing out leaflets about a gala Purim carnival in Jerusalem tomorrow evening.

Proceeds of the event, to be held at the Jerusalem Theatre, are to go to the building fund of the new Shaare Zedek Hospital, scheduled to open next year. The holder of each IL100 ticket is entitled to eat from a continuous buffet, play bingo and other games of chance, and compete for the best costume.

Works of art and special prizes like a free re-designing of a living room by an interior decorator will be auctioned off.

Dry Bones



IAI bungled on Kfir

The proposed sale of Kfir jet fighters to Ecuador was badly mis-handled by Israel, and blown up out of proportion, argues HIRSH GOODMAN.

THE "SPONTANEOUS" demonstration by several hundred aviation workers outside the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv earlier this week again brought Israel's arms export industry into the headlines — which is precisely where it ought not to be.

It is the considered opinion of more than one frustrated official within the Israeli defence establishment that the problem of selling the Kfir jet fighter to Ecuador would have been far nearer resolution today had it been handled with a greater degree of sophistication on the Israeli side.

By forcing it into the public arena — in a production orchestrated for the most part by staff members of the Israel Aircraft Industries — the issue has become one of principle. Now the Americans are obliged to make public excuses for their decision to block the deal; and they may no longer be able to backtrack on it.

THE TROUBLE, it must be pointed out, did not start with U.S. refusal to allow Israel to re-export the Kfir's J-79 engine. It started with the very effort of the IAI to sell the plane to Ecuador. According to both American and Israeli sources, IAI went about its sales enterprise without prior consultation with the U.S. authorities, despite specific knowledge that it might thereby be raising a hornet's nest of difficulties. As I reported from Washington in August of last year, American officials were claiming already at that time that the proposed deal might run into non-transferal clause of the Foreign Sales Military Act. That clause forbids the transfer of U.S. weapons systems, military parts and military technology to a third party by their importer from the U.S.

Although the IAI must have been aware of the potential problems involved, a deliberate decision was apparently made to go ahead and present the Americans with a final act of sale. Should they object, the matter would be settled either through the exertions of the Israeli lobby in Washington or within the context of that "special relationship" which exists between the two countries.

WHEN THE MISCALCULATION became obvious, the IAI embarked on a self-serving campaign of publicity, both in Israel and abroad. This was aimed at proving that the Americans were being unreasonable

in blocking the sale; that the had benefited from Israeli tech as much as Israel had from America; and even that the decision was taken in a moment of petulance, after the Kfir had been chosen by Ecuador over American-made F-5.

To cap it all, the IAI organized week's rather naive demonstration with the clear intention of proving its rightful proportions peripheral issue in the total Israel's national interests. Has all this been done with the dorsement of the Defence Ministry? The question is especially because, apart from its peculiar right on the eve of Minister Rabin's departure from Washington — the IAI's action of have a negative impact on Israel's overall programme of arms sale the future, Israel's arms sales are affected as a result of "Ecuador Affair" because it is that those who buy Israeli weapons as well as those who supply components for them can no longer on the unwritten rule of maximum confidentiality in these matters.

THE ENTIRE Kfir incident has a quality of *deja vu* about it, reminds one of the time, several years ago, when the IAI first went about producing the "Arab Force" and then used every means its disposal to get the Air Force to buy the plane. At that time, too, mixture of *fait accompli* and intense pressure was employed to get the deal through — without success. Needless to say, no-one is denying the right of the Israel Aircraft Industries to promote its business. No-one is denying the great contribution of the IAI to the country's defence and economy. But business considerations begin to state state policy, a line has been drawn.

Hirsh Goodman is The PLO military correspondent.

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